

November 11, 2012

Don't Worry
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God's plan is for His people not to be worrying or frustrated, full of anxiety. God is always calling His people to a greater level of trust. Don't be seized with alarm, don't be afraid and fearful, trust Him, God has not fallen off His throne. He deserves our trust.

Luke 21:34-36 *"But take heed to yourselves and be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened and depressed (weighed down) with the giddiness and headache and nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries and cares pertaining to [the business of] this life, and [lest] that day come upon you suddenly like a trap or a noose; 35 For it will come upon all who live upon the face of the entire earth. 36 Keep awake then and watch at all times [be discreet, attentive, and ready], praying that you may have the full strength and ability and be accounted worthy to escape all these things [taken together] that will take place, and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man."* Amp

Luke 21:34-36 *"But be on your guard. Don't let the sharp edge of your expectation get dulled by parties and drinking and shopping. Otherwise, that Day is going to take you by complete surprise, spring on you suddenly like a trap, for it's going to come on everyone, everywhere, at once. So, whatever you do, don't go to sleep at the switch. Pray constantly that you will have the strength and wits to make it through everything that's coming and end up on your feet before the Son of Man."* Message

Drunkenness includes headaches, worrying about things which have not even happened, doesn't use good judgment, and dulls the senses.

The word "care or cares" in verse 34 of Luke 21 is also found in Matthew 13, Luke 8, Mark 4. The cares of this world will cause the word of God not to bear fruit for us. We must not take on any cares in our life. How life handles us, determines how we handle life. We must learn how to handle life.

Care means mentality challenged, not physically but emotionally, torment, concern, anxiety, a troubling emotion, is a measure of oppression of the mind, to be weighted down by a false responsibility, to be drawn or distracted in a different direction than the answer.

It is the enemy's desire that we be distracted by cares so that we are drawn away from Jesus or His Word, that has the answer. It begins to choke the life that God has for us. How are we to respond to cares? If we don't learn how to handle cares, they will handle us. It will drain us of any hope that we might have had.

Psa 42:11 *"Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God." KJV*

We keep our hope in God. "This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice in it." Our responsibility is to rejoice and be happy.

Matt 11:28-30 *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls.] 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest (relief and ease and refreshment and recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls. 30 For My yoke is wholesome (useful, good—not harsh, hard, sharp, or pressing, but comfortable, gracious, and pleasant), and My burden is light and easy to be borne." AMP*

When we are worn out, needing rest and refreshment, Jesus tells us that He provides this for us, rely on Him, give Him our emotions and tiredness and take what He is offering to us. Couple ourselves with Him, begin to learn of Him in the secret place. If we do things Jesus' way, we won't be worn out.

Cares cause us to be distracted and overloaded, we lose our focus, being pulled in another direction. God always turns a curse into a blessing, when we are weighed down that is when we should run to Him. Don't get on a guilt trip, false humility is nothing more than pride, trying to do things in our own strength.

Rest means exempt that which comes to destroy. Ever feel like the giants head is cut off and 7 more grow up in its place?

Winston Churchill was to have said "why is it the ship beats the waves when the waves are so many and the ship is one? The reason is the ship has a course or destiny."

If there is purpose in our lives, regardless of the beating and circumstances that is taking place, we still win over all the beating that comes to us, because of the course or direction that we have in our life.

1 Peter 5:7 *"Casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully." AMP*

God cares for us affectionately. We are worthy of His love. His love for us is extravagant; He doesn't love us in order to get something from us, but instead to give everything of Himself to us. Humble yourself and let God be good to us. God's grace endures; multiplied to us we will never fathom the greatness of His love.

Eph 5:12 *"Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that." Message*

1 Peter 5:7 *"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." KJV*

1 Peter 5:7 *"So be content with who you are, and don't put on airs. God's strong hand is on you; he'll promote you at the right time. Live carefree before God; he is most careful with you." Message*

1 Peter 5:7 *"Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you." NLT*

Cast is a decisive decision, an outward act as the result of an inward decision, to do something on purpose. Give up those cares and worries, don't pick them up again, let go and let Jesus have them.

Luke 10 is an example of care. Most cares are disguised as our responsibility to worry. Martha felt the responsibility of feeding Jesus' entire group and Mary was not helping. Mary was hanging on every word that Jesus said, but Martha was pulled away by all that needed to be done. She interrupted and ask Jesus to help her, but His reply was "you are fussing to much and getting worked up over nothing". Mary has chosen the "main course" and it won't be taken from her.

We cannot allow ourselves to become taken up over nothing, eventually all the things going on around us will disappear and pass away, but Jesus' Word and Heaven are not going to pass away and we must stay focused on who we are and who we are serving. Jesus is our King. He is our Saviour.

A challenge to us: Father, right now I cast all my cares over on Jesus, I leave the care there, because Jesus cares for me and I ask for forgiveness for worrying and being full of anxiety and being distracted, being pulled in a different direction, I am going to stay focused on Jesus. He never changes. He loves me extravagantly. Jesus is in love with me and I am in love with Him.