

“The Father Who Dares Us To Trust” Luke 12:22-34

The Son Addresses Our Tendency To Worry (22-29)

- A. Our obsession with the natural (22-23) – “22 And He said to His disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.”
- B. Our underestimation of our value to God (24) – “24 Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!”

Notice that Jesus teaches us that the antidote to anxiety is to understand and rest in how valued we are by God.

- C. Our invitation to live free from anxiety (25-29) – “25 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 26 If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? 27 Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28 But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith! 29 And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried.”

Jesus asks us to explore why we go in and out of worry – he asks, “Why are you anxious?” He then places a command upon us to cease living with worry. The call for us to exit anxiety is a priority from the heart of the Father.

The Father Offers Us An Alternative (30-32)

- A. He makes a distinction about us (30) – “30 For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.”
- B. He imparts His DNA to us (31a) - “31 Instead, seek His Kingdom...”

His vision becomes our own. His values become our own. His priorities become our own. His passion becomes our own.

- C. He extends a promise to us (31b) – “...and these things will be added to you.”

For each Christian who pursues the Kingdom as his/her life priority, there is a divine guarantee that all needs are met.

Father's Day
June 17, 2018 – JEFF LYLE

- D. He discloses His heart to us (32) – “32 Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.”

Far above a mere commitment to feed us and clothe us, the Father stresses to us that it brings Him pleasure to give us the Kingdom? Have we considered the impact of this statement? The whole Kingdom has been given to those who live for it. The possibilities of this declaration from Jesus are stunning.

This Relationship Liberates Our Purpose (33-34)

33 Sell your possessions and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. **34** For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

To the degree that we grow in our identity as sons and daughters of God we will experience a freedom from anxiety, a release from the unhealthy comparison of ourselves to others, the insecurity of not being enough or having enough, and the joy of inwardly, unapologetically resting in God's goodness to His beloved children.

“What Father Promised” Revelation 21:1-7

He Has A New Home For Us (1-3)

- A. A place of perfection (1) - “I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.”
- B. A place of joy (2) - “And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”
- C. A place of oneness (3) - “And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God.”

We must remember that the Father's will has always been to be with His own. He once made a garden for two. He will soon provide a renewed cosmos for His bride. It has always been about His glory and our communion with Him.

He Has A Full Healing For Us (4)

- A. Healed from our regrets - "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes..."
- B. Healed in our bodies - "...and death shall be no more..."
- C. Healed from our wounds - "...neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore..."
- D. Healed forever - "...for the former things have passed away."

While perfect, comprehensive healing is provided for in the atonement and is available now, this is not the same thing as being in the state of perfection, fully restored, totally without flaw or completely glorified. All of creation groans for the promised redemption of itself back into the state originally designed by God. There is a cosmic healing promised by the Father that obliterates all that is damaged, diseased and detrimental.

He Has An Unfading Hope For Us (5-7)

- A. He is our sovereign protector (5a)- "And He who was seated on the throne said..."
- B. He is our relentless finisher (5b-6a) - "Behold, I am making all things new. Also He said, Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true. And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end..."
- C. He is our eternal provider (6b-7) - "To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be My son."

Most of our experience with God has not occurred yet. The vast majority of our priceless interconnected oneness with the Father takes place after the end of this age. We have little comprehension of how gloriously good He truly is, and the degree of beauty and ecstasy He has prepared for us in eternity. We must raise our hopes higher with every passing day. This vapor of a life gives way to unending depths of the glory of our eternal Father. Our hope is secure and unfading. It is a theological fact that the best is yet to come for the children of the Father.