

CONQUERING ANXIETY

July 19, 2020

Today we want to talk on the subject of worry, anxiety, fear.
Worry is one of the greatest problems of the human heart.
Satan controls people with fear; this is one of his greatest tools.

Today's virus epidemic is an instrument of fear, of anxiety.
It is overdone in some places.
Faith must be greater than fear. Which will we choose?
Listen to this promise: - (it is for those who have faith in their heart.)

Psalms 91:9-11. "Because thou hast made the LORD, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

What a wonderful promise. When plagues came upon Egypt, God protected his people from all these plagues.

In the last days, when antichrist is here during the last 3 1/2 years - He controls the world by fear. He controls the world economy. You cannot buy or sell unless you submit to him. You could be put to death, if you don't sell your soul to satan. Fear is one of Satan's greatest tools. But we must be people of faith. And fight the good fight of faith. And lay hold of eternal life I Tim. 6:12.

- Fear is a picture in our mind, a negative picture of failure, disaster.
- Faith is also a picture, is a picture of victory. God will take care of us. I don't know how, but I know the Lord will take care of us. Faith. Hebrews 11:6 - without faith it is not possible to please God.

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” Hebrews 11:6, KJV.

**Faith works in a soft heart. A hard heart cannot believe.
We are told in Galatians 5:6, that “faith {operates} by love.”
And untrusting, skeptical heart does not have faith.
Faith works by love. Let's keep a soft believing heart.**

**Philippians 4:6 is not a suggestion, but a command.
“Be {anxious} for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
The Lord is saying in this verse, do not worry about anything!
Take it to the Lord in prayer. Let your request be known to God.
Pray, have faith, and thank him in advance.**

**We are told in I Peter 5:7, to cast all of our cares upon him.
We're not to carry all these worries and concerns.
Give them all to Jesus.**

**In I John 4:18: we are told that “perfect love casteth out fear: that... fear hath torment. He that fears is not made perfect in love.”
Let's ask God, for a new revelation of his love. It casts out fear.
Gods Love, and kindness, and assurance, casts out all fear.**

Jesus tells us not to worry about tomorrow.

What shall we eat, or drink, or wear... (oh ye of little faith) Mt.6:30

Mt 6:31* Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

Mt 6:33* But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

We are not to worry about the future. Yet, many Christians do worry.

Remember Psalm 118:6 - “The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?” Psalms 118:6, KJV.

Ro 8:31* If God be for us, who can be against us?

The confession of our mouth is so important

Let's talk now about the power of our mouth, our confession.

Often, the answer to our situation, is in our own mouth.

Many times when we pray, preach, or prophesy, the Holy Spirit is speaking through us – to ourselves. A man's message first to self.

Our confession must be from faith, not fear. Let's look at Psalm 37:25: “I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.”

As an old man, King David declared: I have never seen the righteous forsaken, or his seed begging for bread.

I have never seen the righteous starving to death from hunger.

God has always provided.

Isaiah 54:17: no weapon formed against me shall prosper.

Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord and he heard me and delivered me from all my fears. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous but the Lord delivers them out of them all.”

Psalm 138:8 the Lord will perfect that which concerns me.

God will bring an end to the problems I'm facing.

2 Cor. 2:14 - praise be unto God who always causes us to triumph.

Paul continues: I am confident of this very thing, that he who has begun a good work, he shall complete it. Philippians 1:6

All these are good verses to quote. These are excellent confessions.

**Remember Jude 1:24 - and let's make this personal.
And now unto him who is able to keep me from falling,
And to present me faultless before the throne, with exceeding joy.**

**Then we have the beautiful verse in Ecclesiastes 3:11:
That is able to make all things beautiful in his time.
Sooner or later, God work everything out, even beautiful.
We must never charge God with being insensitive or uncaring.
Some trials last longer than others. But if we keep our heart right,
He will make everything beautiful in his time.**

**Paul declared: “for me to live is Christ, to die is gain.” Phil. 1:21
In verse 23 - to depart and be with Christ is far better.**

**Romans 8:28: He is working all things together for good.
The nice times and the difficult times, all are necessary.
Do not focus on the negative! This is what brings anxiety.
Confess what is positive and true.**

**According to Deuteronomy 23:5, God is able to turn bad things into
good things. This verse tells us, our God turned the curse into a
blessing, because the Lord your God loved you. This is repeated in
Nehemiah 12:2.**

Check your thoughts

**The Holy Spirit does not say negative things.
Doubt, gloom, worry, anxiety, torment, discouragement.
No, the Holy Spirit says positive things. Remember -
Discouragement is always from something we are thinking.
Are we listening to the right voice.
Where are your thoughts coming from?
It is so important always be in agreement with God.**

The Lord desires to perfect our faith

We learn something very important from Hebrews 12:2.

What enabled Jesus to endure the cross? The joy set before him.

He had vision of things beyond this life. This is very important.

We need a greater eternal vision. This life is very short.

Without vision we dwell carelessly, according to Proverbs 29:18a;

“Where there is no vision, the people (cast off restraint):

Jesus endured the cross because of the joy set before him.

It says, Jesus despised the shame. What does that mean?

The price was nothing, compared to the eternal reward.

He scoffed at the price:

The price was absolutely nothing compared to the reward.

This is the attitude we need when we are in trials.

This will soon be passed, there is a rich eternal reward waiting for me.

Remember Abraham - he was willing to live in tents, why?

Because he saw the heavenly city, New Jerusalem.

He had an eternal vision, he saw the eternal rewards. Hebrews 11:9,10

“By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”

Therefore, Abraham was willing to forsake everything.

This life is very short, many are shortsighted.

Only living for this short life.

Let's keep our eyes on the prize, not the problems, present afflictions.

Let's define the word optimism: is to expect the ultimate good.

Some people always expect the worst.

God does not want us to live this way. We need greater eternal vision.

2 Timothy 1:7

God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of love, power, sound mind.

God is light, and in him there is no darkness. I John 1:5

In God there is no anxiety, no fear, no worry, no torment.

Lord, - let my whole being be filled with light.

“Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light,,,.” Luke 11:35, 36

Lord, let my whole being be filled with light, dispel all darkness.

Martyrdom

Luke 12:4-5 - “And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, who after being killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.” Fear God.

Even some who’re called to lay down their lives, can have great peace. Instantly, when martyred, they’re immediately in heaven, eternal joy.

There is good fear and wrong fear.

Holy fear keeps us on course, makes us afraid to sin. Brings life.

Wrong fear makes us sin, and takes us off course.

Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. God wants to deliver us from the wrong kind of fear.

Lord, deliver me from the wrong kind of fear, give me a holy fear.

THE PEACE OF GOD

The human heart is looking for peace.

There can be no happiness without peace.

Peace is a fruit of the Spirit.

As the fruit of the Spirit is developed in us, We'll have greater peace.

In Philippians 4:7-8

“Be [anxious] for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which [sur]passeth all understanding, shall [guard] your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6, 7, KJV.

Where do we lack peace? In our heart and mind.

In our emotions, in our thoughts.

The peace of God can guard our heart and mind.

Let's close with Isaiah 64:4 - Oh, the unimaginable blessings God has

For those who wait for Him. So let's be calm, let's Be patient,

Let us fear God and not man, and we will have a wonderful eternity.