

Today

Enough for Today

- Jesus instructs his disciples to request just enough for today.
 - Yet, most prayers resemble “Christmas lists” that cover every possible threat or contingency that we may face along the way.
 - *“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today”* (Matthew 6:34).
 - I seek only what I need for this day; God must be God of my tomorrows for he alone sees the future.
 - If I continue to captain through the quagmire of “what-might-be’s”, I will only bring misery to my existence because I cannot see tomorrow.
- While the notion of faith carries an aspect of the future about it in its anticipation of a promise fulfilled, it also carries a “nowness” about it.
 - I live fully in today, secure in the knowledge that God cares for me and works for my welfare.
 - Tomorrow always holds new promise because Christ is at work securing for me a better life.
 - “Better” cannot be measured in earthly gain but in the development of soul and spirit so I become fit to live with God for eternity.

Carefree Living

- Christian living is a simple and carefree approach to living (1 Peter 5:6-7).
 - Worldly ideology elevates self, but the godly thinking humbles self before God and waits for God to exalt him (cf. James 4:6-10).
 - God cares and God will take care of it all (Philippians 4:6).
- *“And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest?”* (Luke 12:25-26)?
 - Anxiety and worry choke out joy and happiness in everyday living (Matthew 6:19-24).
 - In knowing who controls tomorrow, I trust myself to God’s care and leave the fretting and worry to him.
 - It is confidence that no matter what comes my way; God will see me through the conflict and make my life richer from the experience (cf. Job 42:10-17; James 1:2-8).
- Worry destroys faith (Matthew 13:22).

Living in the Now

- Some live off in the future but never get around to living in the present.
 - *“Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes”* (James 4:14).
 - Waiting to live until after that ship comes in suspends whatever delight and contentment can be enjoyed in the present.
- *“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin”* (Hebrews 3:13).
- *“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen”* (Hebrews 11:1).
 - We can live securely in today because of what God has done for us, and his participation in history leaves evidence that he will keep his promises.
 - Faith provides an anchor for weathering the storms of life (Hebrews 6:19).

The moment of death will either be the greatest moment of our lives or will be the first taste of eternal condemnation—and eternity separated from love and from God. Whichever it is, we will have reached our eternal home. The choice is ours and the time to make that choice is now.

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