

SERMON: THE CERTAINTIES OF TOMORROW

Matthew 6:25-34

(25) Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? (26) Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? (27) Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? (28) And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: (29) And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. (30) Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? (31) Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? Or, What shall we drink? Or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (32) (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. (33) But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (34) Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Introduction

We humans crave certainty. We crave predictability. We crave certainty about the future. We want to know what the future holds. We have developed mathematics and science to give us predictability about the physical realm. The social sciences such as, sociology, psychology, and political science, give a measure of predictability, but not as accurate as mathematics and the hard sciences, such as physics and chemistry.

Even mathematics and sciences do not always get it absolutely right. For the probability and statistics of the meteorologists are not always accurate predictors of the weather.

They do recognize the weakness of their predictability and give us the percentage of accuracy. (There is a fifty percent chance of rain today.)

Some people even spend their money on fortune-tellers, and manipulate Ouija boards. It is not new. From the time of King Saul, who went down to the cave of the witch of Endor until now, people who are desperate for certainty in the face of their fears about tomorrow will be willing victims of the unscrupulous.

Granted: there are some uncertainties in life. In fact, there are many. These uncertainties come as a plethora of questions. Will I lose my job? Will I have enough money to make ends meet? Will tomorrow bring sickness or health? Will tomorrow bring suffering or happiness? Will tomorrow bring heartbreak, loneliness, and despair? If I go to a public event, will there be violence? These kinds of questions flow through our minds easily.

Jesus addressed our deep, innate quest for certainty during His Sermon On The Mount. He taught the listeners not to be overly concerned about tomorrow, because God will take care of His children. The certainties that God gives override and neutralize any and all negative uncertainties that may come. I will only list three. I am sure you can think of many more.

Exposition

1. Tomorrow Will Bring Its Own Strength For The Day.

(Deuteronomy 33:25; Psalm 18:32.)

2. Tomorrow Will Bring The Continued Guiding Presence Of The Lord.

(Psalm 23:4; Proverbs 3:6.)

3. Tomorrow Will Bring Something To Shout About.

(Psalm 34:1; Lamentations 3:22-23.)

Closing Thoughts

Some face the unknowns of tomorrow with the pagan attitude. "Let us eat drink and be merry for tomorrow we may die." Some face the unknowns of tomorrow with an attitude of utter futility. "What's the use?" they ask. Some face the unknowns of tomorrow with the only attitude that will see us through, that of Christian faith. Tomorrow is safe in

God's unchanging and unfailing hand. Tomorrow is God's day. Receive it with joy and be encouraged. Why should a child of God, whose Father made everything, provides everything, and controls everything, be worried about anything? Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

End Note

The Greek word for thought in this text is *merimnao*. It means to be troubled, to be anxious, to be fretful, or to worry. This is the same word used in Philippians 4:6 which is translated in the King James Version as "be careful." Both Jesus and Paul tell us not to worry.

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