

ANXIETY (Part 2 of 2)

I said in part one. “One of the greatest ways that Satan destroys a Christian’s victory is to limit knowledge of God’s Word in their life. And this limited knowledge can cause great anxiety in a troubled world. An anxiety brought on because of ignorance. This is why Bible reading and church is so important – learning about God and His promises can lead to a better quality of life.”

You have to understand the promises of God and the purposes of God to stop living an anxiety-filled life. Worry is nearly always extremely small compared to the size it forms in our mind. Worry is the opposite of contentment, which should be the normal consistent state of a believer’s mind. Every believer should be able to say with the apostle Paul, “I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased [get along with humble means], and I know how to abound [live in prosperity]: every where and in all things I am instructed both to abound and suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:11-13).

Paul when writing to Timothy said, “But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content” (1 Timothy 6:6-8).

I love the words “great gain” in 1 Timothy 6:6. Godliness with contentment is far more valuable to you than anything you will have or will do. Yet, people who are on or headed down the road of anxiety give very little thought to Paul’s words in 1 Timothy 6:6-8.

The more I see, and the more I listen, I fully understand why so many Christians live a stress-filled life. Sometimes, we are the ones who add stress to our lives. We live for the wrong thing. Jesus said, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21). Jesus is not saying that if we put our treasure in the right place our heart will then be in the right place, but that the location of our treasure indicates where our heart is already is.

Jesus makes this clear, “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon [money]” (Matthew 6:24).

Dr. G. Campbell Morgan said, “You are to remember with the passion burning within you that you are not the child of to-day. You are not of the earth, you are more than dust; you are the child of tomorrow, you are of the eternities, you are the offspring of Deity. The measurement of your lives cannot be circumscribed by the point where blue sky kisses green earth. All the fact of your life cannot be encompassed in the one small sphere upon which you live. You belong to the infinite. If you make your fortune on the earth – poor, sorry, silly soul – you have a fortune, and stored it in a place where you cannot hold it. Make your fortune, but store it where it will greet you in the dawning of the new morning.”

Trying to live for God and self can cause great stress!

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