

IN DAILY LIFE <u>Mt. 6:25-34</u>

<u>Mt. 6:25</u> 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?

<u>26</u> 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?

<u>27</u> Which of you **by taking thought** can add one cubit unto his stature?

- <u>28</u> And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:
- <u>29</u> And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
- <u>30</u> Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the
- field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into
- the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, **O** ye of little faith?
- <u>31</u> Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

<u>32</u> (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

<u>33</u> But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

<u>34</u> 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. A few verses earlier in this chapter, the Lord Jesus taught the people about having the proper concern over riches:

Mt. 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Consider the example given by Jesus about a certain rich man:

<u>Luke 12:16</u> And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

<u>17</u> And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

<u>18</u> And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

The production from the ground was not the problem. The rich man was living for his success and was " not rich toward God."

Satan will tempt people with riches:

<u>1 Tim. 6:10</u> For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. Satan will also trouble mankind about the lack of possessions.

In our passage, Jesus taught that lack of money would produce wrong thoughts.

Too often a person's daily life consists of making ends meet.

More Americans are living paycheck to paycheck than before the pandemic and the number keeps rising. About two-thirds (64%) of consumers reported living paycheck to paycheck in January 2022. <u>https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/paycheck-to-paycheck.asp</u> Believers naturally are concerned about survival, but Jesus warned about too much focus upon such things leading to a place where He cautions – "...O ye of little faith."

This passage begins with "Therefore," a summary of the previous verses dealing with a person's focus, and then emphasizes the main point – "Take no thought."

The same emphasis is in verses 27, 28, 31, then ending with verse 34a – "Take therefore no thought for the morrow…"

The same idea is found in <u>Phil. 4:6-13</u>:

<u>Phil. 4:6</u> Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. <u>7</u> And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

<u>8</u> Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things. As a believer, pray and think correctly according to God's concern.

The close of this passage emphasizes the example of the Apostle Paul:

Phil. 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

<u>12</u> I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

<u>13</u> I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Another good summary of the principle being taught by the Lord Jesus is found in Isaiah:

<u>Isa. 26:3</u> Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed *on thee*: because he trusteth in thee.

Let's observe what Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount.

I. FACING DAILY LIFE, 6:25-26

A. The Pressure Acknowledged, 6:25a

 The Problems of Diet – "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink..."

Proper diet and exercise are crucial to good health. Take care of the necessities but do not go overboard, letting them dominate every thought.

2. The Problems of Dress – "...nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on..."

Clothing is a practical need, not the focus of life.

President Clinton provided momentum to the school uniform movement when he said in his 1996 State of the Union speech, "If it means teenagers will stop killing each other over designer jackets, then our public schools should be able to require their students to wear school uniforms." https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/school-uniforms/

<u>Christian Louboutin</u> Loubishark suede sneakers \$ 1,050

https://www.mytheresa.com/us/en/men/christian-louboutin-loubishark-suede-sneakersred-p00679563?rrec=true B. The Perspective Altered, 6:25b-26

1. A New View of Life, 6:25b – "…Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?"

Jesus pointed out that life was more than material things.

<u>Luke 12:15</u> And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

2. A New Value of Life, 6:26

<u>Mt. 6:26</u> 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?

The illustration of the birds indicates that they are not farmers, but it is the "heavenly Father" that feeds them. God is not their servant; He is their provider. <u>2 Thess. 3:10</u> For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat**.

Believers should know that God is the Creator and has a purpose for each person. However He directs a person's life, He will take care of all basic needs while the believer follows His directions.

<u>Summary</u>

Jesus expressed His concern and correction regarding how a believer should focus on daily life.

Food, clothing, and shelter may be the simple necessities of life, but have faith in the Lord and His provisions and show it by making Him and His will the priority of life.

Conclusion

Luke 12:23 The life is more than meat, and the body is *more* than raiment. ...

<u>29</u> And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

<u>1 Tim. 6:6</u> But godliness with contentment is great gain. <u>7</u> For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

<u>8</u> And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

<u>9</u> But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

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