

March/April 2013

I preached this message recently and felt it was apropos for the time we are living in and needed to be shared with our readers.

What are cares? According to Webster's 1828 Dictionary care is defined as: concern, anxiety, solicitude, some degree of pain in the mind, from apprehension of evil.



Aren't we suppose to care about people and their needs, the things of life, our jobs, family, of course we are. But to care or carry all these things and they become a weight is detrimental. We hope to relate in this newsletter how the enemy will wear us out with cares and how we can walk free from the cares.

*John 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal and may kill, and may destroy. I have come that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance---to the full, till it overflows."(amp)*

The first part of this verse describes the M.O. of the devil, which never changes. He will do whatever it takes to rob us of our joy, peace, health, finances and destiny in God.

One of the schemes he uses against us is cares. Cares are weights that bog us down in our hearts and minds and keep us defeated with no victory in many areas of our lives.

What do I mean by being detrimental. When we carry our cares, and become fearful, worried and fretful the enemy has an open door into our lives. He will keep us from walking and living in the victory of the blessing that Jesus provided.

*Mark 4:19 - "And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful." (nkjv)*

Here we find another detriment of carrying cares. They cause the word of God to stop being fruitful in our lives. The weight of the cares, overpowers, trumps the word working. The word gets crowded out by the cares.

*Hebrews 12:1 - "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us," (nkjv)*

If we are honest, the cares of life get so heavy and weigh us down that we lose all patience. None of us are immune to these attacks; it is what we do when we find our self in these circumstances that makes the difference.

When we get together with friends, at church, or work and we are asked, "How are you doing?" and many would answer, "OK under the circumstances." That is the presence of cares, we are never to be under the circumstances.

Years ago Pastor Steve enjoyed scuba diving and one of the pieces of equipment that he had was a weight belt. This would enable him to get beneath the water so he could dive in deep water.

As believers we are not to be under the circumstances but we are to live above the circumstances.

When we take on the cares in the natural it is like putting on a weight belt. We are to rise above the circumstances and walk on the water.

Even Paul fought this with his concern, his distraction about the churches. Paul was describing all the persecutions that he had experienced and adds,

*II Corinthians 11:28 - "And besides those things that are without, there is the daily (inescapable pressure) of my care and anxiety for all the churches!" (amp)*

*Romans 8:37 - "Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors, through Him who loved us." (nkjv)*

We are more than conquerors when we relinquish the cares and all our self effort of fixing all of our problems/cares on Jesus. How much sleep and peace of mind have we lost trying to figure out how to fix our problems. Do they ever change by our worry and care. NO! Sounds familiar doesn't it? It does to me!

Jesus gave us the answer to this problem,

*I Peter 5:6,7 - "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." (nkjv)*

The human body was not created to handle the stress and care of life. God created us to live in peace free from worry, fear, fretting, or anxiety. Our hope and faith lies in the fact that God is able to fix all our problems if we would turn them over and trust Him. When we do this the nagging and fearful question of "will God keep His promise" will go away. We know He will, He said so.

*Mark 9:23 - "All things are possible to him that believes." (nkjv)*

If we focus on our problems they will become the dominate thing in our life. In fact the longer you see only the problem the less you will be able to see and believe God can fix them. When we take our eyes off Jesus we can become overwhelmed by the cares. The enemy interjects the same question in our mind as he did Eve in the garden. "Did God say?" This question introduces doubt into our minds about God's word, thus we can become double-minded.

*Matthew 6:22 - "The light of the body is the eye; if therefore thine eye be single; thy whole body shall be full of light. (kiv)*

I believe this speaks of illumination and revelation. When we get the revelation that we must cast our cares onto Jesus then we can walk daily in the light and the freedom in the Spirit.

*II Corinthians 2:14a - "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ." (nkjv)*

Did you hear that, God leads us into triumph ALWAYS. We will experience freedom and liberty as we trust Him to work in all the areas that are beyond our ability to fix. The enemy wants us to just give in and give up accepting the issues and just live with them. This is not an option, I want to emphasis **NEVER GIVE UP!** As we cast our cares upon Jesus, He is the one who gives us the victory. He solves the issues and problems and we walk in peace during the storms of life.

Cast your cares on Jesus, DO IT NOW!



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**MEETING TIMES:** Monday - 7:30 pm PRAYER - Wednesday service - 7:30 pm - Sunday night 6:00 pm