

In Worry and Want

So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?"...But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:31, 33

When you are worrying about food and clothing for yourself and your family, prayerfully read Matthew 6:25-34, and see how needless your cares are.

God points you to the green grass, the beautiful flowers and the happy birds. Creatures of little worth, all of them, yet God cares for them. Are you not more precious to God than they? You are God's highest creature. You he created in his own image. Through Christ you are God's dear child and he is your Father. A father is anxious to help his child and delights in providing for him or her. If the Creator already daily provides for the insignificant birds, will the loving Father permit you, his child, to go hungry and unclothed? Will the Father, *who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all - how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things* (Romans 8:32)?

God is your heavenly Father. Heaven and earth and all their store are his. He has an abundance from which to supply your want. He rules over all. His strong arm is able to give you what you need. *Your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things* (Matthew 6:32). His wisdom knows what to supply and how much is best for us. Can we ask for more? Small wonder that he addresses us who are prone to worry about earthly things: *O you of little faith* (Matthew 6:30)! By not trusting him to take care of our earthly needs we become like the heathen who do not know or trust their Father in heaven.

If our heavenly Father is withholding from us the full measure of earthly gifts that we desire for our comfort, he is really giving us a blessing in disguise. Thereby he teaches us to cast all our cares upon him and help s us to get away from things earthly and to learn that these are not of the first importance. To believe and trust in him is to be our chief concern. Amen.

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33

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