

August 29, 2021

## "But I tell you..."

*"Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life..."*

*"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."*

*"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."*

Matthew 6:25-34

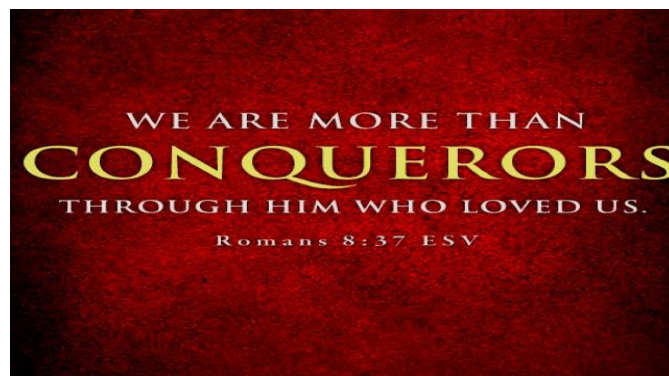
All of us worry and without exception all of us worry the most about the things over which we have little or no control. Unlike those in the first century, you and I seldom really worry about food or clothes. Most of us have those pretty well covered. But we do worry about all of those things that we do not and cannot cover.

That means that our worries are, in some respects, a very real test of our faith in the God of heaven. If our treasure; our soul; is secure with our heavenly Father, then what do we need to worry about? If we, like Paul who wrote, *"...I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day."* (II Timothy 1:12), have placed our very existence in the hands of God, what do we need to worry about?

However, if we have not given our lives completely into his care and control, then we will continue to worry. Most of us, as those who believe, would say that we have confidence that our God can and will continue to care for our every need. But, the sad fact is we really struggle to believe that our God is that aware or that powerful and so we continue to worry that he won't be able to take care of us because...(fill in your own worry.)

When we worry we take our cares and concerns back from the God to whom we have supposedly surrendered them and we try to address those things on our own. And, because we really cannot fix those cares and concerns on our own (if we could they would not be cares and concerns) we worry about them because of course, worry always helps.

Either the God of heaven is in control all of the time or he isn't really God after all. And that is absolutely the issue isn't it? At the end of the day our worries are sourced in our fear that God might not be God.



If God is God however, what do we need to worry about? Paul would write, *"If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also so, along with him, give us all things?...Who shall separate us from the love of*

***Christ...No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loves us..."***  
(Romans 8:28-39)

If God is God, or more specifically, if God is my God, then I need fear nothing. If God is not my God, then I am trying hard to be my own god and I am worrying about those cares and concerns that weight me down and trying to craft solutions to those same cares and concerns that are, after all, way outside my 'bandwidth'. I either cast my cares on the God of heaven or I carry them myself. There really is no other choice.



So, who carries your burdens? Who has your trust? Is God your God? Is God my God. Can you and I say with Paul, "***I know whom I have believed..."***"