

Living Confidently In An Uncertain World

Matthew 6:25-34

I. A Tumultuous World

- A.** Chaotic
- B.** Violent
- C.** Divided
- D.** Rapidly changing
- E.** A lot of reasons to anxiously worry

II. What Jesus Says About Living With Confidence

Matt. 6:25-34

- A.** Is it really possible?
- B.** Sounds so improbable often ignored
- C.** Or we protest Jesus had an advantage as He was divine
- D.** Our tendency is to rationalize our worry

III. What Undergirds Jesus' Instruction – "Do Not Worry"

- A.** Three principle truths that precede the "therefore"
- B.** The deception of people pleasing (Matt. 6:16-18)
- C.** Life organizes itself around the treasures of the heart (Matt. 6:19-21)
- D.** There can only be one supreme priority (Matt. 6:24)
- E.** For these reasons live confidently and boldly

IV. Jesus then gives seven more reasons to live confidently in a very challenging world.

- A.** There is more to life than flesh and blood and God who created your life can sustain it (VS 25)
- B.** How many birds are you worth? Look at the birds, flowers, nature (VS 26)
- C.** Worrying is pointless, it's a waste of time (VS 27)
- D.** Don't worry about having the best attire – Who made the beauty in nature (VS 28-30)
- E.** Don't be stressed out over these things - Worrying is for those who don't know God (VS 31-32)
- F.** Seek God first and his work and your needs will be taken care of (VS 33)

G. Take one day at a time, tomorrow has enough trouble (VS 34)

V. Thoughts

- A.** Important to understand what Jesus is not saying, as well as commanding?
 - Do not be paralyzed by fear and worry
 - Not advocating a careless, shiftless, thoughtless life
 - Called to work with joy because we know the creator
 - Do what you do with God's purposes in view and you will get the world thrown in
- B.** Our anxiety is proportional to our confidence in Creator God
 - Impossible to strive away anxiety
 - Foresight is hard for us but remembering all He has done gives confidence going forward
 - An abiding relationship with Christ through the Holy Spirit is required. That is what transforms us
 - God is greater than all our circumstances
- C.** Prepare to be thought crazy, but the Lord delivers
 - Living counter cultural is not an easy road
 - What others think is irrelevant compared to what God thinks. Even though it won't feel like it
 - Do not fear those who can only kill the body but respect the one who can give life to your soul
- D.** Rewards of Kingdom Living is not just after we die
 - Benefits after death (I Peter 1:4-5)
 - Treasure in heaven available here and now (Phil. 4:19, PS. 46:1)
 - Not as world gives, I give you peace (John 14:27)