



Oswald Chambers **Our Careful Unbelief** (*full of care and empty of trust*) May 23, 2011

Matt 6:25-34 (Jesus) "Therefore I say to you, **do not worry about your life**, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **Which of you by taking thought** KJV (*that is, by you believing a worry thought*) can add one cubit to his stature? (can add a single hour to his life span? ESV)

28 "So **why do you worry** about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is and tomorrow is thrown into the oven will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

31 " Therefore **take no thought** KJV saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But **seek first** the kingdom of God (righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit – Rom 14:17) and His righteousness (all His words are righteousness – Psa 119:172), and all these things shall be added to you.

34 Therefore **do not worry** (*it's only a thought, you don't have to take it*) about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Chambers: Jesus summed up commonsense carefulness in the life of a disciple as *unbelief*. If we have received the Spirit of God, He will squeeze right through our lives, as if to ask, "Now where do I come into this relationship, this vacation you have planned, or these new books you want to read?" And He always presses the point until we learn to make Him our first consideration. Whenever we put other things first, there is confusion.

" . . . **Do not worry about your life . . . .**" Don't take the pressure of your provision upon yourself. It is not only wrong to worry, it is unbelief; worrying means we do not believe that God can look after the practical details of our lives, and it is never anything but those details that worry us. Have you ever noticed what Jesus said would choke the Word He puts in us? Is it the devil? No, "**the cares of this world**" (*which may come from the devil*)

Mark 4:18-19 (Jesus) Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and **the cares of this world**, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things **entering in** (*the heart*), **choke the word**, and it becomes unfruitful.

Chambers: It is always our little worries. We say, "I will not trust when I cannot see", and that is where unbelief begins. The only cure for unbelief is obedience to the Spirit. The greatest word of Jesus to His disciples is *abandon*, **casting all your cares on Him** 1 Pe 5:7. Should a Christian worry? Let's consider what worry is, in contrast to what faith in God is:

- Worry is nothing but fear by a different name.
- Fear is a form of faith, in that I am believing (afraid) something terrible will happen.
- Fear comes when I hear, believe with my heart, and speak the thoughts of the devil.

Job 3:25 **For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, And what I dreaded has happened to me.**

Prov 10:24 **The fear of the wicked will come upon him...**

Ps 37:8 **...Do not fret (get worked up) it only causes harm (to both you and others).**

Rev 21:8 **But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and...all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire... KJV**

Luke 10:39-42 **...Mary, who...sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving... And Jesus...said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."**

1 Jo 4:18 **There is no fear in love; (that is, in the Spirit, in Christ, in God, Who is love)**

Isa 54:14 **In righteousness you shall be established (God's words are righteousness) You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear...**

Let's consider what faith in God really is, in contrast to worry, care, anxiety and fear:

- Faith is the certainty of things hoped for, the proof of things not yet seen – Heb 11:1.
- Faith is being fully persuaded that what God has promised He is also able to perform – Rom 4:21
- Faith is knowing not only that God can, but also that He is willing. – Mark 1:40-42
- Faith is confidence toward God, because our hearts don't condemn us – 1 Jo 3:21
- Faith is such trust toward God, through the indwelling presence of Christ - 2 Cor 3:4

Where do we get such faith in God? Faith which is more precious than gold – 1 Pet 1:7

- Faith comes when our hearts hear God speaking to us by His word – Rom 10:17
- For the word of God is also the word of faith, when it enters our hearts – Rom 10:8
- Since Jesus is the word of God, this faith is the faith of Jesus Christ – Heb 12:2
- This faith is exclusively in the heart or spirit, it is never a head faith – Rom 10:9-10

Mark 11:22 **So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God".**

Matt 8:13 (Jesus) "...As you have believed, so let it be done for you"...

Mark 9:23 Jesus) ..."If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes"

Ps 9:10 **And those who know Your name (Your word) will put their trust in You...**

Pro 30:5 **Every word of God is pure, He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.**