

## Satan's Strategy - Worry and Fear

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### Satan, The Author of Fear

- *Fear is rooted in doubting and questioning God, one of Satan's principle missions.*

Genesis 3:1-5 ESV

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"

2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,

3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Mark 4:37-38 ESV

37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling.

38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"

### The Biblical Standard of Faith for the Christian

Philippians 4:6-7 ESV

6 do not be anxious (*merimnaō* - be anxious, troubled with cares, take thought, worry) about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:34 ESV

34 Therefore do not be anxious (*merimnaō* - be anxious, troubled with cares, take thought, worry) about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

KJV     "Take therefore no thought for the morrow..."

### Carefree But Not Careless

Genesis 3:17-19 ESV

17 And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of

it all the days of your life;

18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 ESV

10 For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

11 For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies.

12 Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

Luke 22:35-38 ESV

35 And he said to them, "When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "Nothing."

36 He said to them, "But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one.

37 For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfillment."

38 And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

## Dangers and Consequences of Worry and Fear

- *Causing you to doubt and question God*
- *Keeps you distracted and preoccupied with the earthly to the neglect of the heavenly*

*Hebrews 2:1-3 ESV*

*1 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.*

*2 For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,*

*3 how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard,*

Mark 4:14-20 ESV

14 The sower sows the word.

15 And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.

16 And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy.

17 And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.

18 And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word,

19 but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

20 But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold."

Luke 21:34-36 ESV

34 "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation (*kraipalē* - a headache from drunkenness, surfeiting) and drunkenness and cares (*merimna* - care, anxiety, distraction, drawn in different directions) of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap.

35 For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

36 But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

## Finding Peace in God

John 14:27 ESV

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

## You Don't / Can't Trust Whom You Don't Know

2 Timothy 1:11-12 NASB

11 for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.

12 For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

## Peace Comes Only to Those Seeking First the Kingdom

Matthew 6:31-34 ESV

31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

34 Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

## Peace Comes Only to Those Convinced of His Love

1 Peter 5:6-7 ESV

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,

7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

## **Peace Comes by an Active and Living Communion with God**

**Philippians 4:6-7 ESV**

**6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**

**7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

## **Peace Comes From What Your Heart and Mind Focus On**

**Isaiah 26:3-4 ESV**

**3 You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.**

**4 Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock.**

**Philippians 4:8-9 ESV**

**8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.**

**9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me -- practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.**