

Seek First: Worry

Sermon Notes February 25th, 2024

Luke 12:29-31 NIV

29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. 30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. 31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

What is the Kingdom?

The kingdom of God refers to God's reign on earth and, consequently, in our hearts. It's a Kingdom active here and now and will rule for all eternity. God invites us to partner with Him in allegiance as King to bring about His Kingdom rule here on earth.

Luke 12:22-34

22 Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.

psuche - _____

Life (soul) is more than...

- _____ (v. 14)
- _____ (v. 23)
- _____ (v. 23)

Luke 12:24-34

24 Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! 25 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? 26 Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? 27 "Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 28 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! 29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. 30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-10

6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, 8 nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."

"And how much more valuable you are than birds!"

God, in His sovereignty, _____ so much about you. God wants us to work hard and trust Him with the _____.

"The kingdom of God is, at its heart, about God's sovereignty sweeping the world with love and power, so that human beings, each made in God's image and each one loved dearly, may relax in the knowledge that God is in control." -NT Wright

Luke 12:31-34

31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

You must set your _____ on God and His Kingdom. You must set your heart/soul against _____.

Luke 12:32-33

32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Seek First the Kingdom - Luke 12

- Be _____ towards God, combat greed.
- Do not _____.
- Work hard unto the Lord, but _____ Him to provide.
- Be _____ towards those who are struggling.
- Live a _____ and simple life.

"Simplicity is the first cousin of contentment. Its motto is, 'We brought nothing into this world, and we can certainly carry nothing out.' It recognizes that we are pilgrims. It concentrates us on what we need, and measures this by what we use. It rejoices in the good things of creation, but hates waste and greed and clutter. It knows how easily the seed of the Word is smothered by the 'cares and riches of this life.' It wants to be free of distractions, in order to love and serve God and others."

-John Stott

Take Home:

Seek First the Kingdom - Luke 12

- Be rich towards God, combat greed
- Do not worry/be anxious/afraid
- Work hard unto the Lord, but trust Him to provide
- Be generous towards those who are struggling
- Live a content and simple life