

DO NOT WORRY

Christ addressed the issue of WEALTH (or mammon) in Matthew 6:19-24, telling us this should not be the focus of our lives. But now He goes on to address the issue of WORRYING about not having enough in 6:25-34. Both hoarding and worry are sins. In both cases, the issue is a lack of trust in God.

Matthew 6:25 (NKJV)

25 “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?”

The word “therefore” ties with what Jesus has just said regarding having the proper attitude towards money/materialism. He has just addressed the issue of laying up treasure; now He goes on to address the issue of WORRYING about not having enough.

I mean, if you are really going to focus on laying up your treasure in heaven, what about having enough to get by while you are still on earth? This is what Jesus here addresses.

Jesus said, **“Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on.”** The keyword here is WORRY. Jesus is not encouraging irresponsibility, rather He is addressing the issue of sinful WORRY.

The word **“worry”** (Gk. merimnao) literally means “to be drawn in different directions”. Worry serves to tear us up. It is to be emotionally torn apart. Worry makes a mess out of you.

“[Worry] is to become so fixed upon a concern that one’s thinking and energy are dominated, and a lack of trust in God’s provision is demonstrated.” – **Ed Glasscock**

As you study the whole counsel of God, you will find there is a difference between worry and proper concern; between worry and being properly responsible; between worry and proper planning. Jesus is here addressing the issue of sinful WORRY.

“Do not worry” is an imperative – meaning it is a command. Jesus is talking about the basic necessities of life related to food, drink, and clothing.

And here in verse 25, Jesus argues from the greater to the lesser, saying, ***“Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?”*** Life has a greater purpose than food and clothing.

“This type of worry causes us to devote our finest energies to making sure we will have enough to live on. Then, before we know it, our lives have passed, and we have missed the central purpose for which we were made.”
– ***William MacDonald***

Life is not merely about preoccupation with food and clothing – with obtaining stuff. We were created for God. Our major preoccupation in life is to be with God and the things of God.

Years ago, we had an evangelist by the name of Sam Dalton come to our church. Sam told the story about a man in his home church who was always so busy making a living that he never had time to serve Christ, he never had time for church, he never had time to serve the body. Sam told him that he was going to work himself to death and that his family would feed better after he was gone. And then Sam said, “That is exactly what happened.”

Yes, we need to make a living, but our LIFE should be for God. Yes, we need to make a living, but life is more than food and clothing.

“God gives the greater gifts (life and one’s body) and will supply the lesser ones (food and clothing).” – ***The Moody Bible Commentary***