

**“CONSIDER THE LILIES”**  
**“Winning the War with Worry/Avoiding Anxiety”**  
**MATTHEW 6:25-34**  
**Satilla Baptist Church**  
**Wray, Georgia**  
**Pastor William Pope**  
**December 10, 2017, Sunday AM Service**  
[www.satillachurch.com](http://www.satillachurch.com)  
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**I. INTRODUCTION**

- a. We have less to worry about than ever before in history, yet we seem to be eat up with anxiety.
  - i. (Food) No One is going to starve. Food is readily available
  - ii. (Shelter) Best Housing, if you can't afford a home the Government will help you get one.
  - iii. (Sickness) Best Medical care in the history of the world
  - iv. (Crime) help is three numbers away. 911
  - v. (Foreign Invasion) Strongest Military in the History of the World
- b. Studies show that a least 1 in 6 Americans are taking some type of medication to help with anxiety or depression.
- c. We are consumed with Anxiety and excessive worry.
- d. What is the cure for worry? How can we live in peace without worrying ourselves to death and mental anguish?
- e. What is the remedy? Are we to simply “Don't Worry, Be Happy”. The Bible is clear in many places, Proverbs, James, Paul's writings, that we are to provide for our needs through work, Plan for our future and take prudent steps to prepare for it, Example the Scripture gives of the Ant who stores up its food for winter.
  - i. *Proverbs 6:6-8 (NKJV) Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, 7 Which, having no captain, Overseer or ruler, 8 Provides her supplies in the summer, And gathers her food in the harvest.*
  - ii. *Proverbs 27:12 A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; The simple pass on and are punished.*

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- iii. *1 Timothy 5:8 But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*
- iv. *2 Thessalonians 3:7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; 8 nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, 9 not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us. 10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. 11 For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. 12 Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.*

f. In this passage Jesus gives us Six Keys, six weapons to help us win the war against Worry:

**II. NUMBER ONE: HAVE THE RIGHT MOTIVES AND THE RIGHT MASTER**  
**(VERSES 22-24)**

- a. The Context of the passage is in the middle of Jesus teaching on Wealth and the last statement He makes is that one cannot serve both God and mammon.
- b. *“Therefore”....*
- c. Cautioned against the accumulation of wealth on this earth.
- d. Commanded us to lay up wealth in Heaven
- e. Warned against impure motives, (greed, selfishness, ambition, pride)

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*f.* Jesus is focusing on the Heart. The things we desire and work for.  
What are we anxious about?

**III. NUMBER TWO: RECOGNIZE WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IN LIFE (25b)**

***a.*** Three times Jesus uses the phrase, “Do not worry”

***i.*** V. 25 Life, Eat or Drink, Clothing

***ii.*** V. 31 Eat, Drink, Wear

***iii.*** V. 34 Tomorrow

***iv.*** Life more than food and body more than clothing.

**IV. NUMBER THREE: HAVE FAITH IN GOD. (26,28-30, 32)**

***a.*** Jesus uses the argument of going from a simple to a complex

***i.*** Birds of the Air (26)

**1.** Jesus is not saying to stop sowing and reaping, for the birds do their part. He is saying they do none of these things yet God has given them an instinct to know how to find their food, to fly south in the winter. Amazing the migration of birds, how they Have the instinct to travel.

***ii.*** Consider the Lilies

**1.** If God takes such care to adorn a flower which exists but for a moment, does He not take note of you, an eternal soul?

**V. NUMBER FOUR: WORRY ACCOMPLISHES NOTHING (27)**

***a.*** Example of woman who was told most of the things that you worry about never happen, See I told you it works!

**VI. NUMBER FIVE: SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD (33)**

***a.*** Example of Glass Jar with Baseball (God), GolfBalls (Family), Pebbles (Work), and then Sand (Everything else). Only by putting God in first,

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then family, then work, then everything else will all of those things go into our life just as in the jar that order is the only way to get all those things in that jar and have a full jar.

**VII. NUMBER SIX: TAKE ONE DAY AT A TIME (34)**

- a. We must take each moment, each day, each task, each challenge as they come and not attempt to solve all our problems at once.

**VIII. CONCLUSION**

- a. Six Keys to avoid anxiety
  - i. Have the Right Motives/Master in our Heart
  - ii. Prioritize what is Most Important in our lives
  - iii. Have Faith in Gods’ Sovereignty
  - iv. Do Not Worry, Remember It accomplishes nothing good. It only makes things worse.
  - v. Seek God’s Kingdom First, Put His Will and strive to service Him first before anything else
  - vi. Take it one Day, One step, One Task at a time.