

Turning the Crap of Life, Into the Fruit of the Spirit Worry

Worry – to feel uneasy about; to be troubled to have a source of nagging concern or uneasiness or anxiety

Luke 10:38

Now it happened as they went that He (Jesus) entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve you alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

And Jesus answered and 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.

Compare the two people around Jesus

Mary – composed, quiet and listening sitting at the feet of Jesus listening to Him

Martha – distracted, worried, anxious (merimnao – from which we get the word marinate). Martha is distracted *AWAY* from Jesus by believing she is doing something *FOR* Jesus. Jesus wants Martha's company, her listening and learning, like Mary, rather than being busied by the worldly activities. Mary has chosen the good part – listening to Jesus without the worry of the world.

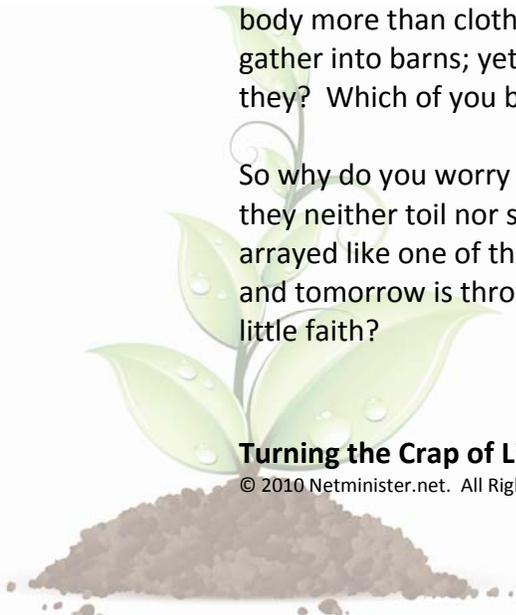
Matthew 6:25 – 34 (Luke 12:22-31)

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 worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

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 in to the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

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Therefore do not worry, 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 and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Worry comes from a set of wrong priorities, it leads to doubt which leads to disbelief. Together they start building a wall between us and Jesus. One brick at a time. We sometimes call it being pragmatic. "Well I am only looking at the facts here" we say as a way of protecting ourselves from the Lord and His ability to deal with our worry. Worry is easy, faith / trust, that is difficult because we don't know His timing. Out of order priorities means and out of order prayer life. An out of order prayer life seeks things we want rather than agreeing with God – marrying our will and desire to His will for our life.

What is important in your life? What are your priorities? What are you seeking in life?

James 4:2-3

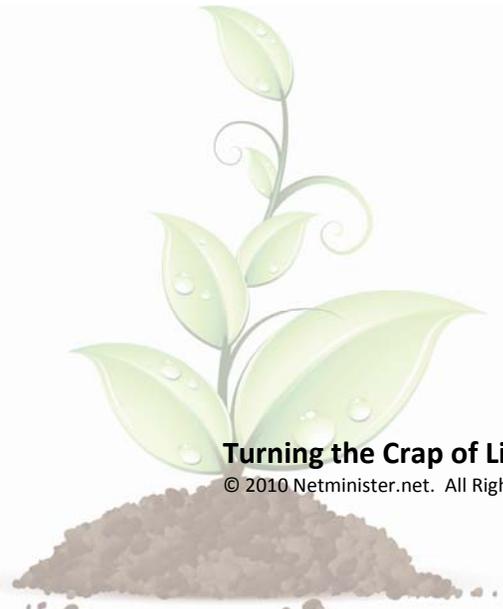
Yet you have not because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.

Philippians 4:19

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus

Philippians 4:6-7

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.



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