



“Learn, Laugh, And Live Today”

Matthew 6:25-34; James 4:13-15

The headlines and the airwaves are filled with the overpowering news that the economic giants of the world are crumbling. Each day the American people wake up to more devastating news that their very lives are falling apart. Retirement funds are dwindling after years of investments; the banking and investments companies have gone bankrupt or have been sold; unemployment is at an all time high; America's educational systems are not meeting the challenges which young people will need to face the future; the family structure is disintegrating; morals, values, and principles are archaic ideals; unhealthy lifestyles are caused by stress; and fear has become the fuel propelling a people toward destruction. People have become afraid to move, stand still, or make basic decisions. Paul told Timothy, in 2 Timothy 1:7, “For God did not give us the spirit of FEAR; but of POWER and of LOVE, and of a sound mind. Yet, fear continues to consume the minds and spirits of countless Christians.

Needless to state, there is valid concern for what is happening in the world today, but our reactions as Christians must reflect our basic belief that Jesus expressed in His discussion in Matthew 6:19-34. He specifically tells us not to run after this world's vainglory and treasures, but to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven. He continues do not derail your life by worrying about food, clothing, shelter, or even what will happen to you tomorrow. If you seek God, He will give you what you need. Do not try to live in tomorrow, but rather “Learn, Laugh, and Live Today.”

James 4:13-14, I feel, instructs us even more succinctly. James teaches us to not say what you will or will not do tomorrow. Do not brag about where you will go, how much money you will make or whom you will meet, because life and its baggage comes and goes so swiftly. James goes on to say rather than trying to live in tomorrow you ought to say that you will attempt to accomplish or complete this or that—“If God allows it to happen.”

People are fearful and are panicking, because they are not fully trusting that God will see them through. People are planning and trying to do so much for tomorrow that they are not:

1. Learning what God wants them to do today;
2. Laughing and enjoying the blessings that God has, is, and will provide; and,
3. Living in the fullness of God's rich bounty

Throughout history people have made plans, but never sought God's council (Genesis 11:4; Proverbs 19:21; Luke 12:18). People have sought earthly treasures (Psalm 39:6; Job 27:16, 17; Matthew 6:19), yet not remembered that the future is hidden (Proverbs 27:1; Ecclesiastes 9:12; 10:14; Acts 20:22; Matthew 24:23). It is important, if we are to Learn, Laugh, and Live Today to never forget that life is short (1 Chronicles 29:15; Job 7:6, 9:25; James 4:14). Understanding these basic ancient truths, it is required that each of us surrender, and submit to the divine will of God (Psalms 40:8, 143:10; John 7:17; Ephesians 6:6; James 4:15).

STOP living fearful of tomorrow and surrender to allowing God to order your steps TODAY. Learn what God wants you to do—then JUST DO IT!! Have some fun and live by loving others while you share God's eternal plan. You are IN THIS WORLD, BUT NOT OF THIS WORLD.

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