



Sermon, Sunday January 23, 2022

“Christians who live by faith, don’t worry”

SCRIPTURE: Psalms 127:1-5 ¹Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain. ²It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives sleep to his beloved. ³Sons are indeed a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. ⁴Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons of one’s youth. ⁵Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them. He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Introduction: Christians Who Seek Faith in the Lord Instead of Worrying

We live our lives worrying about many things. Health, job, marriage, children, studies, business and future are all sources of worry. Let’s decide in 2022, not to waste our time with these worries, and resolve instead to enjoy the blessings the Lord gives us through faith. So, for us who are weak and anxious, Jesus comforts us with encouragement through the words of Matthew chapter 6.

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?”
(Matthew 6:25)

“If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?”(Matthew 6:30)

“So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'”(Matthew 6:31)

“For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.”(Matthew 6:32)

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”(Matthew 6:34)

Problems are not solved by worrying about things that have already happened or haven't happened yet in our daily life. Worry and anxiety are useless to us. The Lord promises us clearly through the words of the Gospel of Matthew. The Lord knows what we need and He is able to solve it. Therefore, a Christian should seek wisdom from the Lord by trusting in the Lord, and be able to solve problems through that wisdom. Through today's text, we hope that you will know what the root cause of our worries is, and through the life of Solomon, realize how meaningless a life without the Lord is.

Body: The Psalm of King Solomon

Psalm 127 is a praise sung while going up to the temple. This is praise that the Israelites sang as they repented of their independence of the Lord as they went up to the temple. Also, Psalm 127 is written by King Solomon. King Solomon in the book of Ecclesiastes tells us that life is meaningless, based on his own experience.



However, Solomon's experience of the meaninglessness of life guides us toward solving its fundamental problems. This is the core of the wisdom we must learn through Solomon.

Psalm 127 describes our worry and anxiety about our lives. It is that our hard works and efforts in life may be in vain.

1) The first worry is if we can't live even after we build a house. (Failure in our relationship with the Lord)

Let's look at verse 1 of today's text. **"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."** Just because we built a house doesn't necessarily mean we live in it. Also, the house we build is not permanent.

Solomon experienced this throughout his life. **In Ecclesiastes 2:4, Solomon says: "I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards."** And Solomon speaks of his own labors as follows: **"I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor."** (Ecclesiastes 2:10)

But then Solomon confesses: **"Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun."** (Ecclesiastes 2:11)

What is clear is that our toil and plans may be in vain, but life without the Lord is certainly in vain. **So Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 12:1. "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them."**

Effort and passion in our life are very precious. But if the Lord is not with us, that life will eventually make us idols. And when we ourselves become idols, such a life is ultimately in vain. This is also true of the guards who are awake and do their best to protect the city.

Only when the Lord guards the city with the watchman can we be safe. We can experience with just a little bit of life that there are loopholes in our plans and efforts.

After all, anyone who wants to build a house and keep a city without the Lord is proud. We cannot have true joy without the Lord. Solomon was successful from a worldly point of view (wealth, fame, power, talent) but a failure in his relationship with the Lord.

In the last years of his life, Solomon came to realize that what makes life meaningful is knowing the Lord. If we worry too much, it's a sign that we're not close in our relationship with the Lord. Please seek the help of the Holy Spirit for a more intimate relationship with the Lord.

Let's see what Psalm 127 tells us about our other worries.

2) The second worry is that our labors will be in vain.

Let's look at verse 2 of the text. **"It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives sleep to his beloved."**

Most of our worries in life are if our toil will be in vain. This verse shows the labor of the farmer getting up early and going to bed late for a bountiful harvest. But nothing will be more disappointing if our hard work returns in vain.

Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 2:18. "I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me." And it says in 2:23. "All his days his work is pain and grief; even at night his mind does not rest. This too is meaningless."

Work is very sacred, but it is also given to us as a result of human disobedience. God said to Adam in **Genesis 3:17: "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you,**



You must not eat of it, Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life."

After all, the labors of our lives can only find their full meaning when our relationship with the Lord is restored. Therefore, without the Lord, the toil of our lives is bound to be in vain. Therefore, it is a blessing that we are with the Lord.

Today's psalm is not telling us not to work hard. Christians must work harder than anyone else in the world and cultivate their dreams. But it is foolish and vain to try to accomplish this without the Lord. The Lord grants intimacy and peace to those who seek to make a life with Him.

Conclusion: Toil and rest with the Lord

Now let's summarize today's sermon. In 2022, I hope you do not waste time with worries and anxieties and find joy in life with the Lord. Trying to achieve your goals in life without the Lord is in vain, and such a life is the result of idolatry. Also, the problems in our life cannot be solved unless the Lord is with us.

We want everyone to be able to be with the Lord in every detail of our lives. I hope that the toil for our lives will be with the Lord, and the rest we enjoy will also be with the Lord.

