

MEDITATIONS ON THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE

...."This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart from [always be in] your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful [take heed] to do according to all that is written in it; for THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have success".... Joshua 1:8 NASB

May 1st

Say No To Anxious Thoughts [part 1 of 4]

* A common enemy to success in an individual's life is fear. Thoughts of fear can cause you to become anxious, overwrought, and stressed out. Fear is perverted faith, or we could say the reverse gear of faith. Faith is a builder – fear is a destroyer. Most people tend to fear the unknown. We find on several occasions when Jesus appeared to the disciples after He arose from the dead, His greeting was: Fear not or Be not afraid.

Even when Jesus spoke of all the things that were to come upon the earth, He said, "...see that you are not troubled...." (Matthew 24:6) In John 14:1, "Let not your heart be troubled." Then in Matthew 6:25, Jesus admonishes us to take no anxious thought concerning the necessities of life.

In Matthew 6, Jesus tells us a better way to deal with the everyday circumstances of life.

...."Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these

things".... Matthew 6:25-32 KJV

Now notice verse 31: "Take no thought, saying..." It's all right to take thought. It's all right to make plans. But don't take thought by saying, "What am I going to do? I don't have enough money to meet my bills. Dear God, what am I going to do?" Words like that will never produce faith; they will only produce fear, doubt, and unbelief. Faith comes from hearing God's Word. Negative thoughts will die unborn unless you speak them. The way you take a thought is by speaking it.

If you are going to take thought concerning your needs, take them from Philippians 4:19: "...my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Don't entertain thoughts that leave questions unanswered.

Faith always stops at the question mark. I believe that is the reason Jesus said not to take thought by saying, "What are we going to do?" Words are powerful forces, and if they are used rightly, they will put you over in life. If you use them in a wrong way, they will destroy your faith and cause you to fail in life. Jesus was revealing something that is very vital to success in life: **Don't take thought by speaking the negative things when you could speak God's Word and take His thoughts.**