

Our Caring Savior

1Pe 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: 7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Introduction:

1. Someone has said, "You can't change the past, but you can ruin a perfectly good present by worrying about the future."
 - a. Worry does ruin the present, but even more important for the believer is to recognize that worry is sin.
 - b. Someone might say, "Worry is a small, trivial sin." But that's not true.
 - c. When you worry, you are saying in effect, "God, I just don't think I can trust You." Worry strikes a blow at God's integrity and love for you.
2. Worry means you are not believing Scripture.
 - a. You can say, "I believe God's Word."
 - b. But then you worry about God fulfilling what He says in it.
3. Worry means you are being mastered by circumstances.
 - a. Let the truths of God's Word, not your circumstances, control your thinking.
 - b. By worrying, you make the circumstances and trials of life a bigger issue than your salvation.
 - c. If you believe God can save you from eternal Hell, also believe He can help you in this world as He has promised.
4. Worry means you are distrusting God.
 - a. If you worry, you're not trusting your Heavenly Father.
 - b. And if you're not trusting Him, perhaps it's because you don't know Him well enough.

- c. Study God's Word to find out who He really is and how He has been faithful to supply the needs of His people in the past.
 - d. Doing so will help give you confidence for the future.
 - e. Allow His Word to indwell you richly so that you aren't making yourself vulnerable to Satan's temptations to worry.
5. In his last years Simon Peter wrote to the scattered saints who were under persecution and he told them to cast all their cares on the Lord for He cares for you.
6. Let's examine this verse today
- a. First we'll look at "The Admission"
 - b. Secondly we look at "The Action"
 - c. Finally we will look at "The Assurance"

I. THE ADMISSION

- There is an admission in this verse
 - Peter here admits that believers have cares
 - No matter how spiritual we are, no matter how godly we live, even if we are smack dab in the center of God's will - we will have cares
- A. **"Cares" in the Bible**
1. All of us have cares. All of us have troubles. Job summed it up well when he said.....
Job 5:7 Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward.
Job 14:1 Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.
 2. Cares - comes from the word that means to divide or distract. Distraction of mind which creates insecurity and uncertainty.
 3. Martha had cares
Lu 10:41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

4. Paul had cares

2Co 11:28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

5. The Master instructed us not to worry

Mt 6:25 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? 26 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? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

B. Anxiety is Common in Life

1. Peter's readers were facing intense persecution

1Pe 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

2. They worried about their families and their futures

3. Anxiety is common in life and if someone says that he has no anxiety or worries then he might be in need of help

4. We were studying fear in my SS class and I wanted to make a worksheet with 20 phobias and have Josh and Savannah match the

fears. So I went to the internet and googled “phobias” and I was surprised at the sheer number of phobias that there are.

- a) *Acrophobia - fear of heights*
- b) *Arachnophobia - fear of spiders*
- c) *Arithmophobia - fear of numbers*
- d) *Barophobia - fear of gravity*
- e) *Aulophobia - fear of flutes*
- f) *Botanophobia - fear of plants*
- g) *Chaetophobia - fear of hair*

The Admission...

II. THE ACTION

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

- This part of the verse reminds us that Jesus is the supporting Savior.
- He can handle what you and I cannot handle
- He can support what you and I would collapse beneath
- Peter does not tell us to deny our cares
- He does not tell us to ignore our cares
- He does not tell us to run from our cares
- Instead of going through life weighed down with cares, we are to throw them onto the Lord
- Php 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

A. *There is Support for Every Believer - “your”*

1. There is individuality here - let me explain
 - a) *I have sometimes quoted this text - “Casting all our care on*

him... ”

- b) It is true that Jesus is the Shepherd of the entire flock and we can all cast our cares on Him*
- c) But that is not what Peter is saying here - “your”*
- 2. Peter knew that the Lord cares for His own
 - a) The Lord healed Peter’s mother-in-law*
 - b) The Lord helped Peter pay his taxes*
 - c) The Lord helped Peter walk on the water*
 - d) The Lord delivered Peter from prison*
- 3. You can cast “your” cares on Him
- 4. I don’t know what your cares are, but I do know that every believer is invited to cast his cares on the Lord for He cares for you.

B. There is Support for Every Burden - “all”

- 1. The Lord has support for all your burdens
- 2. In our lives some burdens are bigger and more serious than others
 - a) Like mountain peaks they stick out above the other concerns in our lives*
 - b) Don’t just cast those big, serious concerns on the Lord*
 - c) He has support for every burden*
- 3. Don’t just cast one burden on the Lord and keep the rest - cast them all on the Lord
- 4. Have you ever watched the “World’s Strongest Man” contest?
 - a) Those huge men from around the world compete against each other to see who is the strongest*
 - b) Part of the competition involves lifting heavy objects*
 - c) Part of the competition involves pulling a semi a certain distance in a certain time*
 - d) Some of those men don’t really look very athletic but they are sure strong*

- e) *What I realized was that those men, no matter how big they were or how powerful they were had a limit*
- f) *They could only go so far*
- g) *Jesus has no limitation. No problem, no care is too big for him to handle*
- h) *His big shoulders are able to bear every load*

The Action...

III. THE ASSURANCE

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

- Simon Peter does not just tell us that Jesus is the supporting Savior
- In the second half of the verse he tells us that Jesus is the sympathizing Savior
- Sometimes there is a lack of sympathy in our world
 - Have you ever wondered, “Does anyone care anymore?”
 - Drive by shooting, blood on carpet
 - Vicky working with business office at BH
 - Find someone who cares and it is a big help

A. *In Jesus We Find Personal Sympathy - “you”*

1. I emphasized the personal aspect earlier when we looked at “your” in the first part of the verse
2. Here in the second part of the verse we again see that personal aspect - “he careth for YOU.”
3. Peter did not write - “Casting all our care on Him for He careth for us.”
4. Isn’t it refreshing when someone takes a personal interest in us?
5. Jesus cares for you because of His manhood
 - a) *He left heaven and became one of us*

- b) *On earth He faced everything that you and I face*
 - c) *When you are tempted of the devil, Jesus knows what that is like because He experienced it in his humanity*
 - d) *When you stand by the grave of a loved one that you just buried, Jesus knows what that is like because He stood by the grave of Lazarus and wept*
6. Jesus cares for us because of His priesthood
- a) *He is our Advocate interceding for us before the throne of God*
 - b) *The inspired writer of Hebrews points this out*
Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are*, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.
 - c) *Jesus can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities*
 - d) *He is not too far away to be concerned*
7. Dr. John Wilson told the following story. Booth Tucker was conducting evangelistic meetings in the great Salvation Army Citadel in Chicago. One night, after he had preached on the sympathy of Jesus, a man came forward and asked Mr. Tucker how he could talk about a loving, understanding, sympathetic God. "If your wife had just died like mine," the man said, "and your babies were crying for their mother who would never come back, you wouldn't be saying what you're saying." A few days later Mr. Tucker's wife was killed in a train wreck. Her body was brought to Chicago and carried to the Citadel for the funeral. After the service the bereaved preacher looked down into the silent face of his wife and then turned to those who were attending. "The other day when I was here," he said, "a man told me that if my wife had just died and my children were

crying for their mother, I would not be able to say that Christ was understanding and sympathetic, or that He was sufficient for every need. If that man is here, I want to tell him that Christ is sufficient for every need. My heart is crushed, it is broken, but it has a song, and Christ put it there. I want to tell that man that Jesus Christ speaks comfort to me today." The man was there, and he came and knelt beside the casket while Booth Tucker introduced him to Jesus Christ.

B. In Jesus We Find Perpetual Sympathy

- Not only is there personal sympathy, but Jesus exhibits a perpetual, consistent and constant sympathy
 1. In the past, Jesus cared. In the present, Jesus cares. In the future, Jesus will keep on caring.
 2. Bob Weber, past president of Kiwanis International told this story. He had spoken to a club in a small town and was spending the night with a farmer on the outskirts of the community. He had just relaxed on the front porch when a newsboy delivered the evening paper. The boy noted the sign "Puppies for Sale." He got off his bike and said to the farmer, "How much do you want for the pups, mister?" Twenty-five dollars, son." the farmer replied. The boy's face dropped. "Well, sir, could I at least see them anyway?" The farmer whistled and in a moment the mother dog came bounding around the corner of the house followed by four of the cute puppies, wagging thier tails and yipping happily. At last, another pup came staggering around the house, dragging one hind leg. "What's the matter with that puppy, mister?" the boy asked. "Well, son, that puppy is crippled. We took her to the vet and the doctor took an x-ray . That pup doesn't have a hip joint and that leg will never be right." To the amazement of both men, the boy dropped off the bike, reached for his collection bag and

took out a fifty-cent piece. Please, mister," the boy pleaded, "I want to buy that pup. I'll pay you fifty cents per week until the \$25 is paid off. Honest, I will, mister." The farmer replied, "But son, you don't seem to understand. That pup will never be able to run or jump or play. That pup is going to be crippled forever. Why in the world would you want such a useless pup as that?"

The boy paused for a moment, then reached down and pulled up his pant leg, exposing that all too familiar iron brace and leather knee strap holding a poor twisted leg. The boy answered, "Mister, that pup is going to need someone who understands him to help him in life!" We were crippled and disfigured by sin, the risen, living Christ has given us hope. He understands us - our temptations, our discouragements, and even our thoughts concerning death. By his resurrection we have help in this life and hope for the life to come.

Said the robin to the sparrow
"I should really like to know
Why those anxious human beings
Rush around and worry so."
Said the sparrow to the robin,
"Oh I think that it must be
That they have no heavenly Father
Such as cares for you and me."

Conclusion:

Is God really concerned during our times of hurt? Does He care when the burdens weight heavily on my every thought and activity? Does He care when I can no longer resist some strong temptation? Does he care when I must say my final farewell to my dearest loved one on earth? At some time or another, these questions come to all of us.

Frank E. Graeff was a minister of the Methodist Church and he pastored leading churches in the Philadelphia Conference. Throughout the Philadelphia area he was known as the “sunshine minister.” C. Austin Miles, who wrote “In the Garden,” paid this tribute to Frank Graeff: “He is a spiritual optimist, a great friend of children; his bright, sun-shining disposition attracts him not only to children, but to all with whom he comes into contact. He has a holy magnetism and a child-like faith.”

In spite of his cheery disposition and winsome personality, Graeff was often called to go through severe testing experiences in his life. It was while passing through such a test and experiencing severe despondency, doubt and physical agony, that Mr. Graeff wrote this text. He turned to the Scriptures for solace and strength. First Peter 5:7 (“Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.”) became especially meaningful to him during this particular struggle.

The form of the hymn is unusual. Each stanza asks questions about God’s care for us in various situations, and the chorus resounds with the bolstering answer: “Oh yes, He cares, I know He cares!”

Does Jesus care when my heart is pained
Too deeply for mirth or song,
As the burdens press, and the cares distress
And the way grows weary and long?

Does Jesus care when I’ve tried and failed
To resist some temptation strong;
When for my deep grief there is no relief,
Though my tears flow all the night long?

Does Jesus care when I've said "good-bye"
To the dearest on earth to me,
And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks,
Is it aught to Him? Does He see?

Oh yes, He cares, I know He cares,
His heart is touched with my grief;
When the days are weary,
the long nights dreary, I know my Savior cares.