

INTRODUCTION

1. An off-the-cuff comment by Pst Geo McDearmon -> this sermon.

1st: God's Sovereign Sufficiency in Our Daily Troubles

1. Mat 6:34 *enough*: sufficient, adequate - each day's *trouble* is *sufficient*
 - i. exhortation against *worry* - NASB; NIV
 - ii. *trouble* = moral evil - enemy's *malice* [Tit 3:3] - adverse circumstances [Mat 6:34], misfortune, "dark providence". Mat 6:13 - *evil* = harmful, demonic [Mat 5:11; 1Pt 5:8; 1T 4:1]
2. God as our Father - *Abba Father* [R 8:15].
 - i. our religious devotion to Father - Mt 6:8 -> "Lord's Prayer".
 - ii. v19-24 who is your God? Answer - see where you invest \$ [v19-21] heart priorities [v22-23] - invest energies - v24 *serve* = IInd c. [Exo 20:4-5a]. Jesus connects internal affections & external actions
 - a. energy of heart - *hate or love* - cov'al terms; v23 do you see what is ultimately true & real?
 - b. external energies - *devoted or despise* - time: the capital of life.
3. Life's fndtnal either-or: God or Mammon [saeculum life lived in this age].
 - i. Lk 18:29-30; Mat 10:39. Discipleship lives for *the age to come*
 - ii. Either God or Mammon. Disciple chooses God - v25's *for this reason*: in Father's care, we need not worry - v25-31
4. *Worry* pts to *little faith* - if Father provides [v8, v30-31], then - v32-34, confident of sufficient care, we are liberated to serve Father in His kingdom
5. v34- prohibits worry & personifies *tomorrow* - Father.
 - i. *trouble* = real evil
 - ii. Today has some allotted & tomorrow will have its allotment. Who is allotting & portioning out this *trouble*? Your Father.
 - iii. *worry* is a theological sin: mental, emotional usurping God's sov'ty.

2nd: God's Sovereign Sufficiency in Our Daily Grace

1. 2C 12:9 *sufficient grace* = enough. W/ chronic thorn, given *sufficient grace* - humble & demonstrate res power of JX in midst of v10.
2. Christ did not change Paul's situation but gave sufficiency: grace. Christ's power, not his pain, was Paul's defining point of reference.
3. *Power is perfected in weakness* = Xn truism. *Power* of res'd Jesus.

4. v9 = Lord's answer to Paul's prayer . Live life of faith weak, but in Christ
- 05. Weakness w/ a good consc - taught humility, suffering *for Christ's sake* [v10], in the way of obed - even, if necessary - *obed unto death* [Phil 2:8].
6. Experience joy of good consc: *most gladly* [v9]; *well content* [v10] - how?
 - i. Knew nothg cld separate him from Christ's love - R 8:35-39. Where is Christ's love? [1Jn 4:10]. R 8:28-34 *in troubles* triumphing
7. 2C 12:9-10 Experience: surface - distresses; beneath surface - strength.
8. 2 Cor 13:4 = modus operandi of Paul's life & ministry. In self-denying discipleship & self-sac'ing service, we experience Christ's res power.

Applic #1: Our Troubles Are Ordered by Our Father

1. We pray *Our Father* - let us be submissive sons. Deliver from "peirasmos" *test/temptation* while life is itself a peirasmos - verify sonship.
 - i. 4 kinds of evil: moral evil; natural evil; supernatural evil & eternal evil. We walk thru valley of death & He does deliver us from all evil.
2. In tribulation, be of good cheer [Jn 16:33]; Father's discipline [Hb 12:5-13]. 1 Cor 10:13 - tailor-made discipline - escape sin & endure test: overcome
3. Our troubles are not w/o purpose but ordered for our good & Father's glory.

Applic #2: Sufficient Grace is Ordered by Our Father

1. Enough trouble & sufficient grace. Need not worry, tomorrow's grace will be provided tomorrow, adequate to meet tomorrow's troubles. Overcome today w/ today's supply of grace.
2. Rom 12:1 - *mercies of God* - both past & future mercies [Hb 13:5]. Exercise muscles of faith today as best prep for tomorrow's trouble.

Applic #3: Let Us Learn Contentment

1. Phil 4:11-12 Paul *learned* - what? *contentment* = *the secret* of living Christian life in any & every circumstance - *peace of God* in v6-7.
2. Beneath tumults - a subterranean strata of soul satisfaction wh/ rests in the sovereign sufficiency of our Father. Faith, hope, love, humility, submission
3. Isa 30:15a. *in quietness & trust is your strength* [Mat 11:28-30]