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Christians Do Not Worry

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CHRISTIANS DO NOT WORRY
Phil. 4:6-7

Text has been variously mis-translated. Superficial.

2. BE PASSIVE. Wander aimlessly along. God do it all.
3. BE SATISFIED with anything that comes along, as
   God's will, and endure it best you can.
4. BE UNCOMMITTAL. Ignore frustrations of plans, hopes,
   dreams and goals. Unresponsive.

Observation: None of these are what it says.
Lesson: Attempt to get at the heart of the
meaning of this passage.
Conclusion will be: Christians do not worry!!!!!!

I. "BE CAREFUL FOR NOTHING." Vs. 6a.
A. Same as Matthew 6:25, 34: "take no thought."
B. What the various translations say:
   ASV- In nothing be anxious.
   RSV- Have no anxiety about anything.
   CONFRATERNITY- Have no anxiety.
   NEB- Don't worry about anything.
   Williams- Stop being worried about anything.
   Amplified- Don't fret or have any anxiety about anything.
   PHILLIPS- Don't worry over anything whatever.
   ROBERTSON'S WORD PICTURES OF N. T.- Stop being anxious.
   BARCIAV- Do not worry about anything.
C. Give you two hints about the true meaning here.
   1. Careful means full-of-care. AMOUNT!!!
   2. Present-tense imperative. LENGTH!!!
Shorten your periods of anxiety this way:

II. "IN EVERYTHING BY PRAYER, SUPPLICATION AND THANKSGIVING..." Vs. 6, b.
A. Amount of concern and length of concern can be
cut to a minimum through PRAYER.
   2. Ill. Teenyson: "More things are wrought by
      prayer than the world dreams of. What are men
      better than sheep or goats, that nourish a
      blind life within the brain, if knowing God,
      they lift no hands of prayer both for them-
      selves and those who call them friends."
      (Edwards, p. 506).
3. Of 667 prayers for specific things in the Bible,
there are 454 tracable answers. Some have said that we would get more and better answers to prayer if we studied about it less and did about it more.

4. Paul is sort of saying: "If you knock, kneel on them -- in prayer." AND: " Hem in the day with prayer, and it is less likely to become unraveled before dark.

1. Lincoln: "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me, seemed insufficient for the day."
   (Edwards, p. 504)

2. Jesus SUPPLICATED but did not worry!
   Answer: Jesus DID NOT WORRY, but rather suffered an anticipatory-agony of crucifixion. He had seen many in his day since a child. Knew!!!!
   Conclusion: Prayer and supplication and God's strength through prayer led Jesus through.

1. Request and beg, but don't forget to say "thanks".
2. There is nothing too great for God's power if we ask in faith; and there is nothing too small for His Fatherly care. (Barclay)
3. Earthly father concerned about your little cares, triumphs, disappointments and joys. God too!
4. So much to be thankful for: Like Jimmy in B. S. when class asked what grateful for, said "My glasses." Asked why. "Keeps the big boys from fighting me and the girls from kissing me."
5. Or, little Kathy, who went around mumbling thanks under her breath after new baby came. Mother later overheard her goodnight prayer: "Thank you dear God for our baby John. I'm especially thankful that John wasn't twins like the Dr. said he might be." (Doan. p. 262)
"AND THE PEACE THAT PASSES UNDERSTANDING SHALL KEEP YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS...." Vs. 7.

A. The Christian, who is praying and thanking God cannot possible be FULL OF CARE - FULL OF WORRY!

B. He remembers 3 things:
   1. The LOVE of God. Matt. 6:25. Life more than food, and Body more valuable than clothes. Given these

C. "Understanding". Beyond those who have not experienced this close spiritual communion with God and Christ.
   2. Beyond explanation by one who DOES experience it - to one who has not!
   3. Beyond man's ability to understand and find it, contrive it or produce it OUTSIDE OF GOD.

D. CLOSING STATEMENT: "He who prays with a perfect faith and trust in the love of God, the wisdom of God and the Power of God---will find God's peace and rest for his soul.

FOR THIS REASON the Christian is never FULL of CARE, nor does he let his anxieties REMAIN big problems long in his life. I Pet. 5:6-7.

INV: Sinner friend: Know peace of mind? No! Never can until you make peace with God. Rom. 5:1. Mk. 16:16

Brethren: Trusted in God's love enough? God's wisdom enough? God's power enough? No!

Then, got in trouble and NOW WANT OUT. R-P

Identify.