

Do Not Cling to Your Fear

Selected Scriptures

1. **Do Not Be Anxious for Your Eternal Salvation** (John 10:25-30; Rom 8:1ff)
The greatest problem that any man has is his sin before God (Luke 12:4-5). Whoever repents of sin and trusts in Jesus Christ will be saved (John 3:16; 14:6; Rom. 3:21-26). God has promised not only to save us from sin, but also to make us like Jesus and to bring us to be with Him (John 14:1-6). God has promised to eternally keep all who come to Him in faith (cf. John 10:25-30; Rom. 5:1; 8:1, 31-39).
2. **Do Not Be Anxious for Your Earthly Provision** (Matt 6:25ff; Luke 12:22ff)
In both the Old and New Testaments, God has demonstrated His ability to miraculously care for people's physical needs (Deut. 8:4; Mark 6:33-44). Jesus often taught his disciples not to be worried about the basic necessities of life (Matt. 6:25ff; Luke 12:22ff). God knows what we need long before we ask Him (Matt. 6:8, 32), and we are not to be afraid (Luke 12:32) or anxious about our physical needs (Matt. 6:25, 27-28, 31, 34; Luke 12:22, 25-26; 29). We focus on God's priorities trusting Him to take care of man's needs (Luke 12:31).
3. **Do Not Be Anxious in Your Extreme Persecution** (1 Pet. 5:6-7)
Peter wrote to a group of believers who were enduring persecution (1 Pet. 1:6; 4:12). Everything that a believer experiences in life, including suffering and persecution (Phil. 1:29; 1 Pet. 1:7; cf. Gen. 50:20), are part of God's gracious plan to make him or her more like Jesus (Rom. 8:28-29). The Christian is to be humble, even while going through trials, casting our anxieties on Him (1 Pet. 5:6-7).
4. **Do Not Be Anxious for Anything** (Phil. 4:6-7)
Paul had suffered greatly from opponents to the gospel (2 Cor. 11:23-29) and he was even maligned by others preaching the gospel (Phil. 1:15-17). Paul instructed believers to be anxious for nothing, but to bring our concerns to God who will guard our hearts and minds with His peace (Phil. 4:6-7).

Principles for Dealing with Anxiety

1. **The Requirement: Do Not Be Anxious**
(Matt 6:25; Luke 12:22, 32; Phil 4:6; cf. 1 Pet. 5:7)
2. **The Response: Bring Your Anxious Concerns to God**
(1 Pet. 5:7; Phil. 4:6; cf. Matt 6:11)
3. **The Result: Rest in God**
 - A. God Has Promised to Provide For You (Matthew 6:25ff; Luke 12:22ff)
 - B. God Cares for You (1 Pet. 5:7)
 - C. God's Peace will Guard Your Heart (Phil. 4:7)