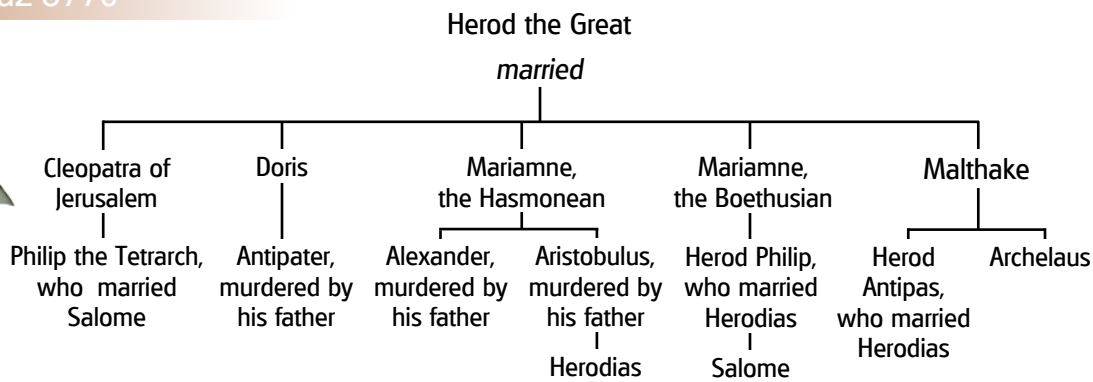


WELCOME

Clayton Community Church
2501 Rockford Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63144
314-961-2232

July 11, 2010 | 29 Tamuz 5770



The Infidelity of Anxiety

Excerpts from the sermon by Dr. S. Lewis Johnson, Jr.
based on Matthew 6:25-34

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”

“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ Or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

Someone has called our age the Age of Anxiety. I think it’s an apt phrase. And the surprising thing about it is that it is not only applicable to our adults, but also to our youth. It was rather surprising for me to read, a few years ago, that a Gallup Poll was taken among our youth, and the question that was asked them is, “What is the basic feeling that you have toward life?” And 60% of the young people had replied in rather shocking and surprising unanimity: fear. That’s a very strange answer, and especially strange from our youth: fear. The Age of Anxiety. I think anyone who looks out over our society and examines the everyday feelings that the average person has, must agree that a great deal of fear is found in our society. Anxiety.

But it’s shocking, to say the least, that people should be so disturbed in our day by the lesser evils, the contingencies of life. And so, it’s the fear of the contingencies, the fear of the things of life, that have gripped our society, which is perhaps insight into the shallowness of our thinking. I think this is best caught and most beautifully caught in one wise comment, “I’m not so much afraid of the end of the world as I am the end of the month.” All of us know that anxiety, but it’s a sad thing that that grips us more than the fact that the time is coming when society and life as we know it is going to end, and men are going to be faced with the fact of a God who judges.

Now, amid the hopeless solutions of the world, there stands the Christian good news. The Christian good news does not ignore the problem, nor does it deal with it as science does, leading inevitably to the nihilism of a Jean-Paul Satre. But it deals with it in the light of divine revelation, and in the divine revelation – the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ – we have that which deals with man’s guilt, and we have that which deals with man’s anxiety.

The Apostle Paul puts it very beautifully in speaking of guilt, for he says, “Through him [Jesus Christ] everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses” (Acts 13:39). The problem of guilt is solved in the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, for it is there that he took our guilt, he

took our condemnation, and it is possible for everyone of us to have the sense of freedom from guilt and condemnation.

As [Paul] puts it in Romans 8:32, “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?” So if you see, if the Lord Jesus has been given as our Savior, and as the sin sacrifice, the greatest gift of all – and through him we have life – shall not all the lesser gifts be ours as well?

And in Philippians 4:6-7, Paul writes, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

(Continued on back.)

Pastors: Charlie Bethel, Wayne Carson & Jake Rosen

Secretary: Gina Edwards

Church Office Hours:
Tue.-Thu., 9AM - 4PM

Weekly Operating Budget:
\$4,500

July 4 General Offering:
\$3,967.30

Brian Ziebarth STM: \$50
Dorothy Bethel STM: \$250
Brenda Robinson STM: \$250
Missions Designated: \$100
Youngs New Tribes: \$200
Raise the Roof: \$100
*Raise the Roof details on reverse.

The offering box is located in the hallway. CCC gives 15% of its regular offering to missions. Any additional offerings to missions should be a sacrifice beyond your regular commitment to the ministry of CCC.

Would you like to know about Clayton Community Church? Please ask one of the Ushers for our Welcome booklet. Children are dismissed to their Sunday school classes at 11 a.m. The cry room is available for those with infants who need to be fed and cuddled. It’s located to your right as you enter the sanctuary. Nursery is available for infants through 2 1/2-year-olds on the bottom floor of the Education Wing. Worship Bags (crayons & paper) are available during the service. Shalom!

took our condemnation, and it is possible for everyone of us to have the sense of freedom from guilt and condemnation.

(Continued from front)

You see, the great promise of the word of God is that we cannot control our minds and our hearts and those thoughts that grip us in our anxiety, but God can! That's the truth of the word of God. He can do it. And not only that, but as they are brought to him, he will do it—shall keep your minds and hearts.

So, we need not look into the future as if it were a befogged landscape. It's a landscape marked out by a loving heavenly Father who cares for all of his sons. And he who possessed the last hour no longer needs to fear the next minute. May God help us to be delivered from the guilt of sin, but the anxieties of sin as well. ■

From www.sljinstitute.net; edited for content.

Short-Term MISSIONS

» **Dorothy Bethel** will travel to Barranquilla, Colombia Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2010. The cost is \$2,300 (\$1,150 due July 31, 2010); Dorothy has \$605 left to raise.

» **Brenda Robinson** will travel to Barranquilla, Colombia Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2010. The cost is \$2,300 (\$1,150 due July 31, 2010); Brenda has \$1,169.50 left to raise.

» **Elisa Doty** will be attending Youth With A Mission's Discipleship Training School September 19, 2010 to March 4, 2011, which focuses on Children At Risk. The first three months (the training portion) will be in Madison, Wisconsin, and the last 10 weeks (the outreach portion) will tentatively be in Thailand. Please pray for Elisa and consider supporting her financially.

To support our missionaries, make check payable to Clayton Community Church with the missionary's name on the memo line.

Invite anyone & everyone...

This is a rare opportunity! Sara Moses, a Holocaust survivor, will tell her eyewitness account during our Sunday morning worship service next week, July 18, at 10:45 AM.



Host a Foreign Exchange Student!

STS Foundation is looking for warm, loving homes for 45 high school foreign exchange students. All family types are welcome to apply, including empty nesters, older couples, young couples, and single parents. You provide separate bed, family meals, and a safe and nurturing environment. Students bring their own spending money and health insurance. If you are interested or have questions, call Julie Orr at 314-298-1228 or 1-866-438-4916.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the Peace of Jerusalem & the Middle East

Our Soldiers in Harm's Way:

- >Iraq - John Oros, Danny Burge, Patrick Owens, Chris Parker
- >Kuwait - Craig Rowland
- >Afghanistan - Kim Hitch
- >South Korea - Joshua Hudson
- >Westpoint - Mark Allen

Israeli Army - Sarah Mizrachi, Liel Meyuseff

If you have updates to this list, please contact the CCC office.

»» ANNOUNCEMENTS ««

- **Please help beautify the church grounds!** Donate a perennial or two--from your personal garden or purchased--to be planted in front of the church. Call Heather Carson for details: 314-781-4523.
- **The nursery is looking for another helper!** If you are interested, please talk to Carolyn Sittser: 636-227-9894
- **The next Urban Prayer Meeting** will be Wed., July 28, 7 PM at Fresh Start Bible Church, 3620 Finney Ave., 63113.

»» ONGOING EVENTS ««

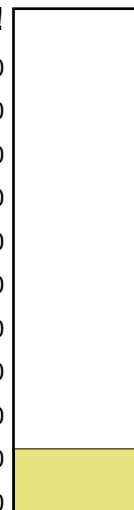
- **Adult Sunday School:** Sunday before church, 9:30-10:30 AM in the CCC fellowship hall. Open to all.
- **Kibbutz Girls:** Monday, 6:30-8:30 PM at CCC. Geri Weis, 314-849-2977
- **Chesterfield Small Group:** Tuesday, 7 PM. Jake Rosen & Jack Scharr, 314-504-8539
- **South City Small Group:** Tuesday, 7 PM. Roger & Debbie Phillips, 314-781-8482
- **Gazelle Group:** 2nd & 4th Wed., 7 PM in the CCC fellowship hall. Debbie Phillips, 314-781-8482 & Dawn Yourtee, 314-644-6638. Open to all women.
- **Beit Chesed Messianic Congregation Shabbat Service:** Friday, 7:15 PM in the CCC sanctuary. Jake Rosen, 314-504-8539

Raise the Roof!

\$2,159 received, \$9,441 left to raise!

\$11,600!

\$11,000
\$10,000
\$9,000
\$8,000
\$7,000
\$6,000
\$5,000
\$4,000
\$3,000
\$2,000
\$1,000



“Raise the Roof” donations are being collected to replace the fellowship hall roof. Envelopes are available in the hallway--mark off the dollar amount of your donation in the star on the chart and drop your donation in the offering box.

“Now I bring the first fruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have given me.” Deuteronomy 26:10