

Overwhelmed By Life

May 20, 2021

Matthew 6:31 ESV

31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

Through the adversity of circumstances, Satan wages war against your faith.

Mark 4:18-19

18 And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word,
19 but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

1 Peter 5:6-10 ESV

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,
7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.
8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.
10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Even the strongest of saints can be overwhelmed by circumstances.

2 Corinthians 7:5 ESV

5 For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn--fighting without and fear within.

Even after great miracles and victories, our faith can fail and be overwhelmed.

Matthew 14:29-30 ESV

29 So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.
30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me."

1 Kings 19:1-6 ESV

1 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword [450 prophets of Baal].
2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow."

3 Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers."

5 And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat."

6 And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again.

We don't know how we will respond in different circumstances until we are tested.

Matthew 26:33-35 ESV

33 Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."

34 Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."

35 Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

Jeremiah 17:9-10 ESV

9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

10 "I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."

John 18:17-18 ESV

17 The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not."

18 Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

John 18:25-27 ESV

25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not."

26 One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

27 Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

We walk by faith and not by sight; and faith must be tested and exercised to grow and mature.

2 Corinthians 1:8-10 ESV

8 For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself.

9 Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.

10 He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

Matthew 6:32 ESV

32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

- *The Gentiles live as ones who have no God; frantically striving to stay in control and secure, all in vain.*

Overwhelmed By Guilt?

1 John 2:1-2 ESV

1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 1:9 ESV

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Revelation 5:6 ESV

6 And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain...

Is God In Control? Does He Even Know?

Psalms 37:23 NASB20

23 The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way.

Psalms 139:3 ESV

3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Psalms 139:16 ESV

16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Is God In Control? Does He Even Care?

Mark 4:37-40 ESV

37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling.

38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"

39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40 He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?"

Matthew 10:29-31 ESV

29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

30 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.

31 Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Psalms 103:13-14 ESV

13 As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

Isaiah 49:15 ESV

15 Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

16 Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

What is God doing about the circumstances I'm in?

Psalms 23:4 ESV

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Isaiah 43:1-2 ESV

1 But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Hebrews 13:5-6 ESV

5 ...for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

6 So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

2 Corinthians 1:3-5 ESV

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

5 For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.

1 Corinthians 10:13 ESV

13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Hebrews 4:15-16 ESV

15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 5:1-2 ESV

1 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

2 He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

Hebrews 7:25 ESV

25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

When Overwhelmed, Concentrate On This

Matthew 6:33 ESV

33 But **seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**

- In whatever circumstances you find yourself, seek first and above all to be right with God by wholehearted surrender to His plan, His rule and His ordered steps in your life.
- Seek first and only, above all else and exclusively, to be a living sacrifice, no longer your own but purchased by the blood of Jesus as His possession and property, wholly surrendered to His plan and purpose for your life.
- There is no other safest place for you to be. To trust your life into your own hands or any other hands is utter foolishness. Who can care for you like God can?

Psalms 55:22 ESV

22 Cast your burden on the LORD, and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Matthew 6:34 ESV

34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.