"Exodus Episodes" (4)

"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24)

Exodus from Future Focus to the Present

Matthew 6:25-34 – (25) "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? (26) Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? (27) And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? (28) And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, (29) yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. (30) But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? (31) Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' (32) For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. (33) But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (34) Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

God wants us occupied with reality, not preoccupied with the imaginary possibility called the future.

Diagnosing Acute P.F.S. Syndrome

<u>Luke 12:13-21</u> – (13) "Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' (14) But he said to him, 'Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?' (15) And he said to them, <u>Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness</u>, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.' (16) And he told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a rich man produced plentifully, (17) and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' (18) And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. (19) And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

(20) <u>But</u> God said to him, 'Fool! <u>This night</u> your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' (21) So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.'"

Foolish Confidence

James 4:13-17 – (13) "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit'— (14) yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. (15) Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.' (16) As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. (17) So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

<u>Psalm 49:13</u> – "<u>This is the path of those who have foolish confidence</u>; yet after them people approve of their boasts."

Last Days Panic

<u>Luke 21:25-28</u> – (25) "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring (noise, echo, figuratively a rumor) of the sea and the waves, (26) people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. (27) And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. (28) Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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