

## **“GOD CARES”**

**Pastor Mike Corwin**

TEXT: MATTHEW 6:25-34 & 10:28-31

GOD’S WORD: PSALM 142

### **I – GOD CARES:**

I love the song that Ella McGrady just sang for us. If you want to YouTube it later the name of the song is “The Same God.”

I love the song because it gives me a theological view of the God we worship. It’s easy to sit back and think about this big God who created the universe. The God who created all the things we have in our lives...including our very lives. The God who did miraculous things when there were large problems in his world, like deliver the Israelites from all the pain and suffering they were going through as slaves in Egypt. The God who got upset with the creation from all the evil that existed in it and caused a giant flood to wipe out the problem. The God who saw the endless problem of sinfulness in humanity and sent his one and only Son, Jesus, to be the sacrifice for all of humanity to solve the problem.

It would be easy for people to read the Bible and come away with the idea that we have a big God and he only worries about the big problems. That he wouldn’t weigh himself down and detract for his ongoing work of creating and sustaining the universe. But we would not fully understand God with that idea only. We also have to recognize that God sees and cares for us even in the minute details of life. This same song tells us that God...

- Knows the secret in my heart
- Knows all my doubts, all my questions
- Knows every fear I have about what might happen
- That he catches every tear I shed

That he loves me...

- When I’m running from him
- When I feel ashamed
- When I’m breaking

- When I lose my way
- When I lose my faith

No matter what...GOD CARES!

## II – TEXT:

Before you think I'm now getting all my belief system, all my theology from music, let me share with you this morning's text which shows you that the theology from this piece of music is spot on.

### **Matthew 6:25-34 (NLT)**

<sup>25</sup> “That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? <sup>27</sup> Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

<sup>28</sup> “And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, <sup>29</sup> yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. <sup>30</sup> And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

<sup>31</sup> “So don't worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. <sup>33</sup> Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

<sup>34</sup> “So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.

This teaching from Jesus is coming towards the end of his teachings on the Sermon on the Mount. He is telling the people how his disciples are supposed to live. They are not to live worrying about physical necessities like food and clothing. These are unnecessary worries in life. If God gave you life and breath, if God gave you a body to live in, don't you think he will take care of your physical needs too? Don't you think he'll take care of food and clothing? You may not have filet-mignon every meal or wear fur coats, but none of you are going hungry or starving are you? None of you came in here naked.

The Lord's Prayer teaches us that we trust God for a new day, and we trust him to provide us what we need in that day as we pray “Give us this day, our daily bread.” That's what this all comes down to...do you trust God. If you do that should be enough. The root of anxiety, which causes you to stew, fret, and worry is unbelief. You are not trusting to God to handle your troubles and provide what you need. Catch that part...God provides what you need, not what you want.

When you really look at this worry it is really a pagan activity. If you truly believe that God sees you like we talked about a couple weeks ago that God cares for you, then you really have nothing to worry about.

What you need to do is replace your worry with the pursuit of the Kingdom of God. Pursue life with God and live as he wants you to live. Have faith and trust only in him!

Let me jump a couple of chapters in the Gospel of Matthew to show you just how much he cares...

### **Matthew 10:28-31 (NLT)**

<sup>28</sup> “Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. <sup>30</sup> And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> So don’t be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

Some of the hurt in your life...some of the pain and sorrow...some of the anxiety you have is caused by other people. Jesus tells us this shouldn’t even cause us problems. He makes the comparison between what humans can do to you compared to what God can do to you. He uses the extreme but it boils down to this...the worst anyone can do to you doesn’t even come close to what God can do.

He then turns immediately from a vision of doom, to a vision of hope. He’s not talking about a God who wants to destroy you. He’s talking about a God who loves you very much and cares for you deeply. He says that not one insignificant sparrow falls down dead that God doesn’t know it, so how much more does he care about you? The very hairs on your head are all numbered. God cares more about you than he does an entire flock of birds.

In this passage I see a God who doesn’t destroy, but a God who gives love and grace. A God who cares not just about the big things, but about the small things as well. A God who created me, gave me life, and will be with me every step I take in that life.

### **III – DAVID:**

That’s the God David was crying out to when he was in trouble. King Saul wanted him dead and was chasing him all over the countryside so he could make that happen. He knew that David was to be the next king. He knew the people loved and adored David and all the feats he had performed. All the enemies of Israel he had defeated. The Jealous king Saul needed to know he was dead and no longer a threat to his throne, so he and his army pursued him to remove the threat.

On part of the story it tells us that he and his men hid out in a cave. But David knew who to cry out to. He didn't just sit in the dark corner in the back of the cave. He prayed. He prayed to the God he knew cared for him. The God who helped him slay a giant named Goliath, the God who had him anointed for his coming kingship.

He trusted that this same God would deliver him from his present circumstances. This God would see him safely through his ordeal as he had others. A God who was always there to hear and respond.

#### **IV – GOD CARES FOR YOU:**

You have to understand that God cares just as much for you as he did David. That he hears your cries, sees your pain, and feels your anxiety. Do you realize that you are God's most prized possession? In the first chapters of Genesis we find the creation story. For five days God created the earth we know. He separated water from land, he created light, he put fish in the oceans and birds in the sky. He put all kinds of plants and animals on the surfaces of the planet and each of the five days he looked at what he had done and it says that "God saw that it was good."

But then the 6<sup>th</sup> day arrived and we read that God made us. God created children for himself. God created us, and only us, in his image. And on this day he "Saw that it was very good."

When he made us his thoughts on what he created went from good to very good. We are truly special to God.

#### **V – LENT:**

Two Sundays ago I preached to you about how God Sees and Hears us. This Sunday I have preached to you that God Cares. I want you to hold on to these Biblical facts and principles as Pastor Becky leads us into a time of repairing the brokenness we suffer from. That's done by a God who cares!

I would tell you to get the most out of it you need to be at all the services provided for lent, in person or through technology, so you can understand even more of how much our Heavenly Father truly sees, hears, cares for, and loves us.

AMEN