

## The Letter Reads - Part I

Did you ever wish the Lord would send you a telegram and explain what he wants you to do in clear language so you could go ahead? I want to think about what God might write to us in a letter.

I believe that in God's mind he would write this letter to give us information that would be helpful in making our life easier and more fulfilling. So let's look at the contents of this letter and see what advice the Lord might send to his children.

He might first say, these are changes you need to make on your part, if you want me to do my part.

The first paragraph would say

### A. Quit worrying

**Fact:** Life has dealt us all some setbacks but we don't have to worry about everything under the sun.

I Peter 5:7 says what? *Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you.*

Philippians 4:6 also says what? *Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.*

Concerning worry **F B Meyer** writes that... The word **anxiety** comes from the same root as anger, and suggests the idea of choking. **Worry** chokes the life of faith.

It does not help us to overcome our difficulties, but makes us unsuitable for dealing with them. *No weapon that is formed against us shall prosper; every tongue that shall rise against us shall be condemned; our bread shall be given, and our water sure. God will perfect that which concerns us, and His goodness and mercy shall never cease.*

He says, Roll thyself and thy burden on the Lord, and leave them there. Too many people take them back again!

**Spurgeon** offers this interesting perspective to those who are hesitant to cast their cares on Him writing that... There is nothing Christ dislikes more than for His people to make show of Him and not to use Him. He loves to be worked. He is a great laborer. He always was for His Father, and now He loves to be a great laborer for His brethren. The more burdens you put on His shoulders, the better He will love you. Cast your burden on Him.

**Remember:** The antidote or cure for anxiety and fear is as Wiersbe writes We have little control over the circumstances of life. We can't control the weather or the economy, and we can't control what other people say about or do to us. There is only one area where we have control--we can rule the kingdom inside. The heart of every problem is the problem in the heart. Once we get to that throne room inside us and let God take over, we don't have to worry about others.

So the first paragraph of the letter tells us not to worry because God is our help in trouble, **if we worry, we are on our own.**

But moving along we see that the next paragraph in this letter is where God writes

B. Put it on the list.

We never seem to run out of things to do. **Question:** Have you got a to do list?

This letter from God however tells us about a different list, than the ones we are used to. Here he writes to us and says, Put it on MY to do list.

Let ME be the one who takes care of your problems. He writes, I can't take care of it until you turn it over to me.

Someone said once, prayer is the place that burdens change shoulders. God tells us to burden him with whatever burdens us.

So lets put our burdens, and to do things, on His list. The reason, there is never a list that is too big for him to handle

Matthew 19:26 says what? *But with God everything is possible."*

In the third paragraph of the letter he says

C. Trust Me

Here he basically writes, Once you have given me your burdens, quit trying to take them back again. Just have the faith and trust that I can take care of any need you have and I can do it without your help.

Romans 1:17 says what? *The good news tells how God accepts everyone who has faith, but only those who have faith. It is just as the Scriptures say, "The people God accepts because of their faith will live."*

If we trust him we will live. The reason is, we can and will live when we remember that our trials and burdens don't have to kill us off. So no matter what you are dealing with, he writes just trust me in the situation, **with** the situation you are facing.

Next we read his words to us that say

#### D. Leave it alone

Here he writes, Don't wake up one morning and say, "Well, I'm feeling much stronger now, so I think I can handle it from here.

He also writes these thought provoking lines: Why do you think you are feeling stronger now? It's simple. You gave me your burdens and I am taking care of them. I also renew your strength and cover you with peace. Don't you stop to think that if I gave you these problems back, you would be right back where you started. Right??

**Thought:** In our language we might look at it like this. Don't bury the cat with the tail sticking out. In other words, God is saying, leave them with me and be sure you leave them. Forget about them and you can do that, because I won't forget.

Finally in the last paragraph for today he writes,

#### E. Talk to me

Here he writes, I just got done telling you to forget a lot of things.

Things like, what ever it is that's making you crazy. Things like what is worrying you, or things you are fretting about because I am in control.

But please don't forget one thing, and that is to **talk to me**. Please don't forget to talk to me because I love you. I want to hear your voice. I want you to talk about what is going on in your life. I want you to share about your family, your friends, your work, your play, your dreams, your joys, your sadness. I just want to be part of your life

You don't have to do it in some fancy way. Just remember, prayer is nothing more than carrying on a simple conversation. Talking, like you would, if I was physically sitting in the chair across the room from you. Or in the car seat beside you.

I Thessalonians 5:17 says what? *Keep on praying.*

Pray in this passage is a command to make this our habitual practice, our lifestyle and not just we feel like it! Unceasing prayer is not restricted to a set time, place or position of one's body.

The believer is not in a right place with God's Spirit if he cannot pray anytime, anywhere "It is not in the moving of the lips, but in the elevation of the heart to God, that the essence of prayer consists."

Harry Ironside wrote... We cannot always be uttering words of prayer, but we can be in the attitude of prayer continuously; that is, we can always be in the spirit of dependence on God.

How about this for a description, when it comes to praying without ceasing. Like a hacking cough; you may not be always coughing though the tendency to cough is always there. So He says always have the tendency to talk to me.

Well, he says, my child this letter is getting long so I will close for now but I'll drop you another line right away

I will write you about some thoughts and guidelines for success that you can look at, next time we get together.

Bye for now, and remember, I love you

Yours truly,

God