

“Overcoming the Overwhelming”

April 19, 2020

I. The virus of worry!

Counselors are saying, “Every person coming into my office is talking about this global roller coaster we’re on... There’s a widespread anxiety I haven’t seen around finances and economic factors in my 30 years of practice.”

II. Where Is Your Treasure?

We’ve had to face tough realities about our own mortality...

Matthew 6 19 – **“Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”**

Nothing on this earth is secure and lasting.

Everything is aging, decaying, and wasting away.

A. There are earthly riches: There are things on earth that are desirable! God made a planet that we would find pleasurable! And it is good. But Jesus warns us – these earthly riches, have no lasting presence or value.

The ways of this world have an expiration date on it!

Luke 12 15 – **“Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own!”**

B. There are heavenly riches: Incorruptible!

1 Peter 1:4 – **We have a priceless inheritance – an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.**

III. The Crisis of Faith:

How well are you doing trusting God?

You may not come to a deep and enduring faith until you have experienced a crisis of faith in your life!

The problem is that many people in Churches today are trying to get by with a very thin childlike-faith – but life is demanding much more than that!

IV. Fighting for Faith.

1 Timothy 6 11 – **“Pursue righteousness and godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you...”**

1) “Pursue.” It’s up to you to become a student to the things of eternal value!

2) You will find “perseverance!” enabling you to endure!

3) “Fight the good fight!” because it is spiritual warfare.

4) “Hold tightly,” If you’re not holding tightly to God’s values, the world and the ways of the flesh will overcome and overwhelm you!

HEAD: Renewing You Minds.

“The Confidence Factor”

Chronic negative thoughts contribute to the delusion of hopelessness.

Read it with the intention of feeding or fueling your thought-life with truth that allows you to trust God

HEART: Restoring Your Courage.

“The Courage Factor”

Christ dwells in your hearts and He will be the One who comforts you!

HABITS: Doing What God Directs.

“The Commitment Factor”

Let me remind you that a life crisis is only a chapter in your life-book – it’s not the book.

To bring your faith to maturity, God will test you with periods like we’re experiencing now.

V. Faith Through Prayer.

Philippians 4 6 – **Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.**

1 John 3:1 – **See how very much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are!**

A choice has to be made:

No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. Matthew 6:24