

## The Wednesday Word, July 2, 2025: Is Jesus Enough to Keep You from Worrying? Part 1

*"Fear not, you worm Jacob, and you men of Israel; I will help you, says the Lord, and your Redeemer." (Isaiah 41:14).*

This scripture gives us two wonderful grace words. They are, "Fear Not."

In the Middle East there is an ancient fable that Pestilence met a caravan on the way to Baghdad.

"Why must you travel to Baghdad?" asked the Caravan Master. "To take five thousand lives," Pestilence answered.

On the way back Pestilence again met the caravan.

"You deceived me," said the caravan master. "You took 50,000 lives."

"No," insisted Pestilence. "I only took 5,000 lives. Worry killed the rest."

That was only a fable.

But, here's the fact ... worry kills.

At one time or another, most of us have been gripped with fear and worry. It's no wonder then that these two words, 'Fear Not' are found frequently throughout the scriptures. In fact, it has been said that the phrase, "Fear not" occurs 365 times in the Bible. What an excellent daily reminder from God!

In all our fears may we learn to look to the Lord Jesus. He is the antidote to fear, anxiety and worry.

When the Lord applies these two words 'fear not' to our hearts, they sustain and support us.

Consider the context of our verse. The people of Israel were at a low point. They needed a word from the Lord, and He gave it ... "Fear Not!" The Lord was on their side. Likewise, if the Lord is on our side, all must eventually be well.

The Lord is sufficient for each and every emergency and need.

In Christ we lack nothing. (Colossians 2:10).

In Christ, we are graced with all-sufficiency. (2 Corinthians 9:8).

In Christ we are graced with all spiritual blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).

In Christ, we have enough to meet every necessity. (2 Peter:1.3).

In Christ we can accomplish everything we have been called to do. (Philippians 4:13).  
"Fear not."

As William Cowper wrote,

*"Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,  
The clouds ye so much dread  
Are big with mercy, and shall break  
In blessings on your head."*

Notice how the people of Israel are called worms, (Isaiah 41:14), yet the Lord has grace for them. And that's the way it is with us. Jesus has taken us at our worst and given us His best. If He took notice of us only when we were great and strong, we would perish. But the Lord looks at us in our lowest state... when we are down in the depths... and gives us grace. Fear not!

These two words, 'Fear Not' revive, restore and renew us. He is not scolding us ... He's not saying ... "Here you!! Yes you! Now get it straight!!! You'd best fear not!!!" No! He says ... "Fear not, I will help you. I, Yahweh, the Almighty, will support you." We look at the future and sometimes there seems to be a mountain of rugged obstacles fast approaching us ... But here's the good news. God is the God of both the mountains and the valleys. He is with us, no matter what we are going through. Fear Not!

Because of the shed blood of Calvary there is no longer separation between ourselves and God. There are no mountains of division. As Paul says, "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39).

Fear not,

Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus.

As Luther wrote,

"And though this world, with devils filled,  
Should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God has willed  
His truth to triumph through us."

Fear Not!

And that's the Gospel Truth!