

How Much Is Enough?

*"Give us today our daily bread."
Matthew 6:11 (NIV)*

The question, "How much is enough?" was once put to a billionaire with reference to his immense wealth. His answer was shocking because he responded, "Just a little more." In other words he thought that he needed more than he had.

Jesus was about to say in Matthew 6:34 (NIV) "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Our Lord is teaching us to live a day at a time. Only when tomorrow comes should we look to our heavenly Father for that day's needs.

Too often we are prone to concern ourselves with possible future problems. The needs of today are all we can actually deal with. We should learn to live in the present and not to be anxious about tomorrow.

At each mealtime we should bow our heads with

thankful hearts for the provision of that meal. The kitchen may lack food for the following day's meals but that should never stop us from giving thanks for the food we have today.

This specific request we are to offer the Lord is an illustration of all the requests we make for our earthly needs. We do not need to ask for our material needs that are days, weeks or years ahead of us. We should ask for the present day's concerns and leave the issues of tomorrow in the Lord's sovereign hand.

When the nation Israel wandered in the wilderness for forty years the Lord gave them provision for each day. They were only to gather two day's food the day before the Sabbath. They were being taught to have daily dependance on the Lord for His provision.

This is why Jesus taught us to pray for our needs one day at a time. We benefit

greatly through having the necessities of life come to us on a daily basis. Pity the people with resources at hand for years to come. They have no need for dependance on the Lord because of their great wealth.

Is not the preferred place that of having our needs met each day as it comes? Wealth is a deceitful thing because it urges us to depend on gold rather than God. With a large bank account there is the subtle temptation to look to our money to care for us instead of the Lord.

How much does any child of God really need? Just enough for today. May all of us have contented hearts seeing that today's concerns are adequately met in the Lord's kindness.

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