

CASTING YOUR
CARES
UPON THE LORD

By Dave Roberson

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture notations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

Casting Your Cares Upon the Lord

By Dave Roberson

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Chapter 1 ***Are You Weighed Down*** ***By Cares?***

Have you ever felt so weighed down by worries and concerns that “hopeless” was the only word to adequately describe your feelings? When the cares of life get that heavy, giving up can seem like the only logical thing to do. You may even start feeling almost paralyzed with fear as you look at the circumstances that surround you.

Satan’s Primary Weapons

The Word tells us that Satan goes about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (First Peter 5:8). What does the enemy use to devour the saints? The cares of this life—the very anxieties and fears that God instructs His people to roll onto Him:

**Humble yourselves
therefore under the mighty
hand of God, that he may exalt
you in due time:**

**CASTING ALL YOUR CARE UPON
HIM; for he careth for you.**

**Be sober, be vigilant;
because your adversary the
devil, as a roaring lion, walketh
about, seeking whom he may
devour:**

1 Peter 5:6-8

When I was a young Christian, it took me awhile to recognize the reason I was experiencing such miserable defeats in my life. Unknown to me at the time, I had no working knowledge of the two main ways the devil operated—through *deceit* and through *the cares of this life*. But now I thank

God for those early days, because it was in my prayer closet that the Holy Spirit was finally able to show me the nature of Satan’s warfare!

Satan has studied mankind for 6,000 years and knows exactly what motivates us. He knows exactly how we think. In fact, when it comes to devising and implementing strategy, the devil is a military genius.

The good news, however, is that God is infinitely better than the enemy at providing a winning strategy. Everything we need to overcome the devil’s strategies against us can be found in God’s Word.

Chapter 2 ***Casting Down Imaginations***

When a lion roars, the sound is so frightening that it paralyzes his prey with fear. That is one reason the lion has gained his reputation as the “king of beasts.”

Much like a lion hunting his prey, the devil will stalk us, showing no mercy and using the cares of this life as weapons to destroy us. And like the lion’s prey, when we hear the devil roar, we can also be tempted to feel helpless and fearful.

Satan’s First Weapon: *Deceit*

That’s why it’s so important to understand that Satan’s first weapon is **DECEIT!** His greatest strategy is to find a way to defeat us without our ever knowing who is actually causing our defeat. You see, the devil is not going to come against us wearing horns and a tail; he’s too smart for that. He knows we would attack him **DIRECTLY**, and he understands better than most of us Christians that we have the authority over him to win!

The devil is actually very limited in what he can do against us. In order to prevail, he has to get us to accept our own defeat. Therefore, his ideal strategy is to work “undercover,” positioning himself where he can continually affect our thinking while avoiding detection.

Given this fact, what more powerful weapon could Satan use than our own **IMAGINATIONS?** He uses these

imaginations to convince us to turn on ourselves. If he can get us to think that what we believe is from God—when it is not—he has already wrought our defeat. As the Word says, if the light that is in us be darkness, then great is our darkness (Matthew 6:23)!

The Devil’s Pathway to Deceit

I used to wonder how the devil was able to plant his imaginations in my mind. How could he make me dwell on a negative imagination until it became bigger in me than the Word of God?

Until a certain point, I had never heard the devil say anything. I never heard him audibly speak to me and say, “You’re going to fail! You’re going to die!” Nevertheless, I knew the enemy was drastically affecting my life.

Yet Satan **DOES** talk to us! You see, we are spirit beings living in earthly bodies. Because Satan and his cohorts are spirits, we hear them only in the spirit realm.

So when an imagination (a strong emotion) enters into me and tells me I am going to fail, it is picked up by my spiritual ears and threatens to shake my faith!

This is the devil’s pathway to deceit. At this point, he has to watch me for my reaction because he **CANNOT** read my mind. He cannot enter into the mind of any believer to extract information.

Satan can oppress you and harass you, but he cannot possess your mind. This principle is **VERY, VERY IMPORTANT.**

When the devil stands there and throws a stronghold or an imagination at you, such as, “You’re going to fail,” that imagination does enter in and you do feel it. You hear that imagination with your spiritual ears. It creates an image in you and saturates you for just a moment.

Then the devil steps back and watches you closely to see what you are going to do with it. He has to stand by and wait because he has no clue as to how you are going to react to what he just said. All he can do is throw the thought at you. He has no idea what you are going to do with it—NOT A SINGLE IDEA!

You need to know that the Holy Spirit is the only One who has access to your mind to know what you are thinking. He is also the One who programs the image on the inside of you that neutralizes the false imagination Satan tries to get you to accept as truth. Now you can see why the Apostle Paul says our weapons are not carnal!

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

2 Corinthians 10:4-6

You know, I used to try to get rid of Satan’s imaginations in my own power.

The devil would throw an imagination at me; then he would watch to see what I was going to do with it. He wanted to see how I was going to react or what I was going to say.

But I finally figured out I couldn’t prevail over the enemy without using the spiritual weapons of warfare God had provided for me. I also learned that in order to cast down the devil’s imaginations, I had to control my words. Jesus confirms this in these two verses:

For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Matthew 12:37

A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Luke 6:45

We can use our words to bring forth the good treasures of God’s Word that reside in our hearts. In doing so, we can cast down any devilish imaginations that might cause us to accept defeat.

Chapter 3

The Spiritual Law Of Displacement

The enemy will make sure we feel the weight and pressures of our problems. You see, it is necessary to accept the responsibility that comes with our family, our job, and other everyday affairs of living. But we do have a choice as to whether or not we also carry the anxieties and fears the enemy tries to send along with that responsibility.

To me, nothing is more important than for a believer to cultivate his relationship with God and to love and take care of his responsibilities toward his family. Yet because Satan talks believers into taking on the cares and fears that can accompany these relationships and responsibilities, Christians often become vulnerable to the threat of failure.

Jesus told us to cast our cares upon Him; yet Satan continually tries to deceive us by blinding us to this truth. It is imperative that we get past the enemy's smokescreen and take the steps necessary to cast our cares on Jesus!

Out of the abundance of the heart, either good things or evil things will come to pass. To make sure it is the latter, the devil will harass, threaten and corner us, continually bombarding us with vain imaginations, especially when he has us on the run. If we allow those negative imaginations to enter our minds and fill our hearts, the result will be a harvest of negative consequences.

Leave Your Cares at the Altar

For years I would try to roll all my cares over onto the Lord in prayer, thinking I had left them at the altar. But as is true with most Christians, I had a problem: The cares of this life would leave church and get to my house before I did. Then the minute I entered the door, those cares would jump right back on me!

If we are to leave our cares permanently at the altar, we must recognize and master the "spiritual law of displacement." To the degree that the Holy Spirit can make the Word of God a living force in us, to that same degree the cares of this life can be displaced. When the cares are displaced, they can be **REPLACED** by peace, comfort, and joy!

You have displaced care when you replace it with something else. That something else is found in Hebrews 4:12: **For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

When the Word of God comes alive in your heart, it becomes a powerful, life-changing reality that creates peace, comfort, and joy where once was only worry and discouragement!

Chapter 4

Suggestions for Becoming A Conqueror

I want to give you some suggestions that will help you become a conqueror as you put into practice the law of displacement.

1. Present Yourself Before God

First, begin casting your care on the Lord by presenting yourself before God and saying, “Lord, the Holy Spirit is my Lawyer, and You are my Advocate. Because the Holy Spirit has access to my heart, He knows I want to cast the whole of my care over onto You. So now I want to edify myself by praying in tongues.” Then spend some time praying in tongues.

You see, I believe that praying in tongues is one of the most important keys to walking in peace and casting our cares upon the Lord. The Holy Spirit responds to the pressures brought against us by activating the supernatural language of tongues. So as we pray in tongues, it edifies the part of us with which we believe God—our own human spirit. Jude talks about this process in verse 20: **But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.**

Therefore, as the cares of this life threaten to come against you, just stop and begin to pray in the Holy Ghost. Keep praying until the hard pressure that the enemy has launched against you begins to lift from the problem.

2. Listen to God’s Voice In Your Spirit

Second, start learning to listen to God’s voice in your spirit. When you know how to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in your own spirit, you won’t feel like a scared rabbit running from your adversary, the lion.

So instead of running from your problem, **STOP** and **GET QUIET** in your heart as God instructs in Psalm 46:10: **BE STILL, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.** Pray in the Spirit until the edification causes a quietness inside of you. Otherwise, you can easily make a mistake or a wrong decision.

I’ve learned to stop running from the pressures of problems. I don’t cave in under the weight of responsibilities anymore. Instead, I have learned how to yield to God. I do this by edifying myself until the peace on the inside of me is stronger than the turmoil surrounding me.

This is the key to Jesus’ words in John 14:27: **Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

This supernatural peace is yours to enjoy as you learn to listen to God in your spirit and the reality of God becomes more real than the problem.

3. Search the Scriptures

Third, search the Word for scriptures that relate to your problem. Don't just memorize those divine promises; **MEDITATE ON THEM** until you can see yourself victorious.

Psalm 1:1,2 tells us that blessings await the child of God who meditates and acts on God's Word:

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Think about God's promises to you while praying in tongues. Praying in the Spirit is the key to receiving the anointing that will cause you to understand and receive your assurance of the answer from the Word.

Satan would love to keep us in the arena of worry, anxiety, and fear that the cares of this life can bring. But those of us who have accepted the responsibility of casting all our care upon Jesus have stepped into the arena of faith. When we entered this arena, we stripped Satan of his two most powerful weapons—deceit and the cares of this life!

4. Spend Time Worshiping God

Fourth, spend time praising and worshiping the Lord. Tell Him you love Him using words that come out of the sanctuary of your own heart. Enter into

His Presence, for it is His Presence that sustains you in the emotional realm of your soul. As you spend much time in God's Presence worshiping Him, He will be free to work the change of character that the process of edification and meditating on the Word produces in you.

When you step through the veil of the flesh into His Presence in worship, your spirit overrides your soul. In that place of worship, God gives you the grace to deny your senses—everything the devil is trying to get you to believe. As a result, your faith grows in strength.

So make worship and coming into God's Presence a vital part of your life. As you do, you will find that many of the devil's weapons arrayed against you just fall by the wayside. In God's Presence, yokes are broken and bondages are loosed as you find the new domain of peace that He has prepared for you to walk in.

It is your responsibility to put into practice the steps outlined above so you can become more than a conqueror. Now that this truth has been exposed, you know the enemy will put pressure on you to succumb to his tactics. But the light of the glorious Gospel will displace the darkness the enemy desires to bring!

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

John 8:12

Chapter 5

Present-Day Speaking

Hear what the Spirit of the Lord would say. For where My Presence is, there is liberty. I am your Father, says the Lord, and I desire to administer grace for you who are brokenhearted, for you who are bound, for you who need liberty, and for you who have been laboring under your own load.

Hear what the Spirit would say, for My yoke is easy and My burden is light. Let not the enemy deceive you, for it is I who will carry these things for you. Cast the whole of your care over onto Me, for I have called you to inherit peace in the midst of a backwards and perverse generation. For the world has tribulation, but I have called you to inherit peace.

For know this, My child, even now I have healing for you.

Freedom From That Heavy Load of Cares

“Have you ever felt so weighed down by worries and concerns that ‘hopeless’ was the only word to adequately describe your feelings?”

So begins Dave Roberson as he takes you on a simple, scriptural journey that will teach you how to cast your cares upon the altar of the Lord and *leave* them there. You may have let the cares of this life weigh you down with feelings of discouragement and despair, but now you can find out how to walk free from that heavy load once and for all. The peace of God that surpasses all understanding is yours to claim!

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