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HARTFORD BIBLE STUDENTS NEWSLETTER

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Is it a Sin to Have Anxiety?

"WHY ARE YOU SO AFRAID? YOU SURELY DON'T HAVE MUCHFAITH." (CEV) MATTHEW 8:26

Anxiety can have many causes. Because we all have imperfect

Anxiety Antidotes

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. (ESV) Proverbs 3:5-6

bodies, emotional disturbances are a common problem many of us deal with. We do not always have control over our thoughts and feelings. Even Apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 1:8 (ESV), "For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself." Paul was emotionally drained.

We are promised in Psalm 55:22, "Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved." (ESV) Casting our cares upon God takes work. It requires us to trust and to communicate with our Father. We also need to stop ourselves from becoming too upset and invested in the things of this world, whether they be personal issues, political world turmoil, financial stress, or whatever may be causing us anxiety. Colossians 3:2 (BBE) says, "Keep your mind on the higher things, not on the things of earth." Again, this takes effort on our part to put God first and to trust that He is working all out according to His plans.



I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give. It isn't like the peace that this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid. (CEV) John 14:27

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with



A Common Question

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY GOOD-HEARTED FRIEND WHO DOESN'T EVEN CLAIM TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

There are some people who see the terrible things that happen in the world and find it difficult to believe in God, let alone Christ. They wonder how a loving God could let people suffer in wars, illnesses, natural disasters, and personal calamities. Some people were raised in a different religion, never exposed to Christianity. Some died in infancy or childhood not of an age to make that decision. There are others who did grow to the age of maturity but due to various reasons never reached a mental state able to reason on such important decisions. So what does happen to them?

Paradise Booklet

WHAT DID JESUS MEAN IN LUKE 23:43 WHEN HE SAID THE CRIMINAL ON THE CROSS NEXT TO HIM WOULD BE WITH HIM IN PARADISE?

WHAT DID PAUL MEAN WHEN HE SAID HE WAS CAUGHT UP INTO PARADISE IN 2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-4?

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CHRIST IS THE SACRIFICE THAT TAKES AWAY OUR SINS AND THE SINS OF ALL THE WORLD'S PEOPLE. (CEV) I JOHN 2:2

It is obviously not God's intention to convert all people to Christianity at this time. If it were his intention, it would have happened already. Instead, the period from Jesus' ministry until now has been to develop believers, faithful followers of Jesus who will reign with Christ in heaven and help bring other people to God's standards of righteousness so they can live forever in his earthly kingdom. Present day unbelievers will be first resurrected; then will come their conversion in God's kingdom. We know this from 1Timothy 2:3-4 (ESV): "This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

During the coming kingdom, ALL people will have every opportunity to be introduced to the truth about Jesus—how he gave his life to release everyone from sin. Those who do not accept Jesus now, as well as those who died without ever hearing his name, will be able to follow him then. It will be a time of



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healing of the earth and of humanity.

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