

LESSONS FROM LILIES

Matthew 6:25-29

John 20... and then...The one plant on earth that represent resurrection is the Lily... Jesus said...

Matthew 6:25 "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **27** Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? **28** "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider (**Examine carefully**) the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; **29** and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Obviously, Jesus wanted us to check out the Lilly... So, Let's do it...

1. **All Lilies are NOT alike** – There are almost 100 distinct species of lilies on earth.
 - a. What are to learn from God's creativity with lilies?
 - b. **1 Timothy 2:3** For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
 - c. Do you feel different from others? Cool! God made you that way!

2. **There is NO climate that lilies will not grow in.**
 - a. The Snowden lily will bloom between icebergs in Artic regions.
 - b. Lilies bloom in desert sun... Shady valleys... Mountain sides and Seashores...
 - c. Lynette and I forget what flowerpots we have lily bulbs in and plant perennials in the pots only to have a lily rise through the flowers and bloom.
 - d. What are to learn from God's creativity with lilies? This...

- e. **Matthew 28:18** And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and **make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*" Amen.

3. Lilies are good for your heart

- a. Jesus uses the lilies as a remedy for worry in our text...
- b. But... Did you know that lilies contain a substance called Convallatoxin that is commonly used for acute and chronic heart failure?
- c. What are to learn from God's creativity with lilies? This...
- d. **John 14:1** "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know."
- e. **I will tell you this** – Lynette bought these lilies for us a week ago and we have been pampering them all week in our garage. Every time I have ventured out there the aroma of these lilies lifted my spirit!
- f. **Listen beloved** – Let not your heart be troubled!

ONE LAST THING ABOUT LILIES...

4. **Lilies are hardier than you think...** and SO ARE YOU!
 - a. Lilies are found on Mount Everest...
 - b. Lilies grow by the Dead Sea...
 - c. Fire lilies grow ONLY after wildfires scorch the earth...
 - d. Water lilies grow in flood waters and bloom for four days without the presence of soil...
 - e. Remember the Scripture that Jesus read to the Synagogue?

- f. **Isaiah 61:1** "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, 3 To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called **trees of righteousness**, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

Conclusion...

CCSV, YOU are trees of righteousness! YOU are lilies of the Valley...
You are the Lilies of the field...

There is no height where you cannot praise God!

There is no depth where you cannot worship Him.

There is so stress where you cannot revere Him!

AND... There is no desert experience where we cannot bloom!

WHY? Because HE alone is worthy! Amen?