

## Sermon Notes

### *Insights from Luke*

#48 – “High Anxiety” – Luke 12:12-34

#### I. Introduction

##### A. High anxiety

1. The title of a 1978 movie and reflective of North America’s stressed culture.
2. Stats on anxiety and depression

##### B. Today’s text addresses anxiety.

1. In a command, we are told not to be anxious – Lk 12:22-31
2. Today’s text: Luke 22-34

#### II. Exposition

##### A. Note connection to last week’s message – Luke 12:21

##### B. Luke 12:22-23

1. Blunt and succinct.
2. Life is more than material things – I Timothy 6:8.
3. Today’s culture is focused upon the very things that Jesus said not to become preoccupied with as we live out our days.
4. Shorter Catechism  
Question #1: What is man’s primary purpose?  
Answer: To glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.
5. Jesus proves His point by appealing to nature.

##### C. Luke 12:23-26

1. First illustration – birds.
2. The raven, an unclean bird – Lev. 11:15
  - a. Still provided for – Ps. 147:9; Job 38:41
3. We are more valuable than birds.
  - a. Poem – unknown author.

4. Can we add time to our lifespan through worry?
  - a. God controls the number of our days.

##### 5. Søren Kierkegaard

#### D. Luke 12:27-28

##### 1. Second Illustration

- a. The non-work cycle of flowers.
2. Flowers have a short life when contrasted with ours. Isa. 40:7
  - a. How much greater is God’s love and care of us.
3. Little faith/trust is always a problem and rebuked by Jesus.  
Matt. 6:30; 14:31; 16:8; 17:20
4. Remember James’ remarks about this concern – James 1:6-8

#### E. Luke 12:29-31

1. Human beings live for themselves or God.
2. Philip Ryken
3. The Roman proverb

#### F. Luke 12:32-34

1. Invest in the right things.
2. Not a categorical imperative – note the following on possession – Ex. 20:15,17; Eph. 4:28; I Tim. 6:17-19
3. The Kingdom of God is the safest investment.

#### III. Points for Reflection

- A. Jesus’ instruction to seek first the Kingdom is not grounds for becoming lazy or not planning for large expenditures.
- B. We should give more and do so cheerfully, while investing wisely in the Kingdom of God.
- C. If you are troubled by anxiety, or other related mental maladies, never forget the chief remedy for what ails all of us – the Word of God!