

August 13

TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY & MEDITATION

KEY IDEAS: Do I recognize that God cares about all of His creatures? Do I see myself as God sees me, as one from whom He desires to lift all burdens? Do I understand that since asking the Lord to shoulder my cares is according to His will, He guarantees that He'll do it? (Compare 1 John 5:14) Do I let my pursuit of material things stand in the way of my caring for others?

1 **God cares for His creation** — *Matthew 6:28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*

What does it make me realize when I read that God clothes the grass?

What examples of God's care for His creation can I praise Him for?

2 **I am cared for by the Lord** — *1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*

When have I asked the Lord to take my burdens and shoulder my cares?

Why does Satan want me to brood and freeze up over my problems?

3 **I am to pursue God's way rather than material things** — *Jeremiah 22:3 Thus saith the LORD; Execute ye judgment and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor: and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place. (Compare Matthew 6:33)*

When have I sought to minister to the needs of those who are helpless?

What things could I do in order to minister to the needs of the helpless?

Holy Spirit, how do you want to apply these verses in my life today?

OPTIONAL BIBLE READINGS

Morning: Romans 13

Evening: Psalms 87, 88