



RISING ABOVE **ANXIETY**

JUNE 23 - JULY 21



SWEET TREATS
FOR OUR
CONSTRUCTION CREW



10TH ANNIVERSARY

A FAILURE OF NERVE

Foreword by Peter L. Steinke

*Revised
Edition*

Leadership in the
Age of the Quick Fix

EDWIN H.
FRIEDMAN

“American civilization’s emotional regression has perverted the élan of risk-taking discovery and pioneering that originally led to the foundation of our nation.

“As a result, its fundamental character has instead been shaped into an illusive and often compulsive search for safety and security.

“This is occurring equally in parenting, medicine, and management. The anxiety is so deep within the emotional processes of our nation that it is almost as though a neurosis has become nationalized.”

Edwin Friedman

“Cartesian anxiety is a term that refers to a **longing for absolute certainty**, and the belief that scientific methods, should be able to lead us to a firm and unchanging knowledge of ourselves and the world around us.

“It is called Cartesian due to its connection to René Descartes who sowed seeds of extreme doubt by insisting upon a kind of absolute or ontological certainty in things.

“Western civilization has suffered from unrealistic expectations as to the basis of knowledge, and a **kind of anxiety** ever since, that we can really know anything in a way that will satisfy our doubt.”

Charles Pope

Don't Live for Stuff

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- Live for heavenly investment

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- Live for heavenly investment
- Devote to one heavenly Master

Don't Live for Stuff

- Live for heavenly investment
- Devote to one heavenly Master
- Don't be anxious

1. **Anxiety is incompatible** for the disciple.

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“Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’” (31)

1. **Anxiety is incompatible** for the disciple.

“For the Gentiles seek after all these things,
and your heavenly Father knows that you
need them all.” (32)

Why do the Gentiles seek after these things?

Why do the Gentiles seek after these things?

- It's all they have.

Why do the Gentiles seek after these things?

- It's all they have.
- They misunderstand God's character.

1. Anxiety is incompatible for the disciple.
2. **Faith is fitting** for the disciple.

“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” (33)

Seek the kingdom of God - present imperative

“Anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strength.”

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“How should he slay the lad! Even if he could get the consent of his wounded and protesting heart, how could he reconcile the act with the promise, ‘In Isaac shall thy seed be called’?

“This was Abraham’s trial by fire, and he did not fail in the crucible. While the stars still shone like sharp white points above the tent where the sleeping Isaac lay,

“and long before the gray dawn had begun to lighten the east, the old saint had made up his mind. He would offer his son as God had directed him to do, and then trust God to raise him from the dead.”

A.W. Tozer

“It is beautiful to see that, while Abraham erred as to God’s method, he had correctly sensed the secret of God’s great heart.”

A.W. Tozer

“Because he lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because he lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because he lives!”

“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and do as you please.”

Martin Luther

“Put second things first and we lose both first and second things ... put first things first, we get second things thrown in.”

C.S. Lewis

“Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.”

Psalms 37:4

“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Matthew 6:33