

In Luke 12:22-28 Jesus tells us not to worry about provisions like food or clothing because God will always take care of us. But how does this reconcile with those people who do become homeless or starve to death?

The Lord encouraged men to seek first his kingdom *and his righteousness* and all things would be added unto them, as well (Mt 6:33). They could trust God (6:25–34); but, life was about more than these things (6:25). He would meet their needs (6:31–34).

Whereas Jews are guaranteed a land blessing (Ge 12:1–3, Ro 9:4, 5, 11:1–36); Christians are guaranteed a spiritual blessing (Ac 13:46–52, Jn 14:1–3).

Spiritual and eternal blessings for the believer (Jew or Gentile) include: salvation (Jn 3:16), election (Eph 1:3–5), regeneration (2 Co 5:17), forgiveness (Col 1:14), adoption (Ro 8:15–17) no condemnation (Ro 8:1), Holy Spirit (Ac 1:8), justification (Ac 13:38, 39) New covenant (He 8:6–13), Fatherly chastisement (He 12:5–11), Christ's intercession (Ro 8:34) sanctification (Ro 8:3–14), perseverance (Jn 10:27–29) and glorification (Ro 8:30).¹

Though Christians suffer trials and tribulations—sometimes severe (2 Co 1:8–10) sometimes physical (2 Co 12:7–10)—God is glorified (1 Pe 4:12–16). The apostle Paul said: ...And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (Ro 8:17–18).

Believers can pray expectantly (Mk 11:24) in God's will (1 Jn 5:14) for guidance (Ex 15:13, Pr 3:5-6). His children overcome difficulties (Nu 13:30, Ps 22:29, Re 12:11) and they will be rewarded (Is 57:13, 1 Co 3:8–14).

¹ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 106). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.