

DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELVES

ANXIETY IN THE HEARTLAND (*Proverbs 12:25 NASB*)

❖ **Our current state**

- ◆ Highly divided as a nation
- ◆ Serious character issues
- ◆ Alarming policy concerns - threatens our future

❖ **Taking a toll**

- ◆ Consumer confidence decline and NFL #'s are down
- ◆ Affecting our families and our children

❖ **Jesus addressed the times we live in**

- ◆ Warned us that difficult times would come
- ◆ Also warned us not to be overcome by the age (*Luke 21:34 NKJV*)

LIVING ABOVE A VERY TROUBLING EVENT (*Acts 20:7-12 NKJV*)

❖ **Paul embraced the problem**

- ◆ He did not ignore or deny
- ◆ We can only assume he was praying; calling on God

❖ **Paul went by what he had in his heart**

- ◆ Eutychus was showing no signs of life
- ◆ Paul perceived life was in him - nothing tangible to go on
- ◆ Paul had learned to live this way - things were not always what they seemed to be

❖ **Paul shifted his focus back to helping people**

- ◆ He did not take up a vigil over Eutychus
- ◆ Went back to speaking - an important last message with the disciples
- ◆ God comforted the disciples by raising up Eutychus

LIVING ABOVE THE TROUBLE

❖ **Denial is not an option**

- ◆ We must embrace the problems (*1 Timothy 2:1-2 NIV*)
- ◆ Do your part and trust God to do His part

❖ **Learn to live out of your heart** (*Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV*)

- ◆ Trust that God is real and real good
- ◆ Trust that God has not abandoned His people
- ◆ Trust that His Kingdom is eternal and this earth is not all there is
- ◆ Trust that you can make an impact for His Kingdom

❖ **Don't trouble yourself - by adjusting your focus**

- ◆ What you keep on your mind & mouth will get in your heart
- ◆ Intentionally shift your focus (*2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NIV*)