Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Matthew 6
- Luke 12:13-34
- II Peter 3:11
- Matthew 13:44-46

Title:

TOMORROW NEVER COMES

- The Hiding Place
- Pray Like This
- The Eye Transmitter
- True Treasure

Reckless Abandon... that's what comes to mind. If you knew this was all you had, this one last day, twenty-four hours, how would you live? What would you do? Would you check tomorrow's weather? Would you be obsessed with your 401K or your long-term investments? Would you be focussed on the security of your retirement? "Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be?" That is what Y'shua thought of such concerns.

Reckless Abandon... without care or regard for consequences, living with a rash, unrestrained impulsiveness, enthusiasm, or zeal. It combines the sense of carelessness with the idea of yielding oneself to an action or impulse without restraint. Jump in wholeheartedly, perhaps impulsively, and with no concern for consequences or danger; that's reckless abandon.

Okay, that sounds a bit, well, reckless! So, let's add wise biblical guide-rails before anyone listening skydives without a parachute or decides to skinny dip with piranhas. Temper the concept of living with reckless abandon by removing certain negative thoughts that display a lack of wisdom. Remove rash, impulsive, careless and without restraint from the life we ought to live. And then reframe consequences and danger as permitted only if the cause is for God. Taking unnecessary risks, those that could not possibly produce fruit for the Kingdom, is both senseless and foolish. And then reinsert restraint by qualifying every choice with first seeking God's heart on the matter—if He approves, then go for it without restraint. What remains is a life of unrestrained enthusiasm and zeal for the things that matter most to God. It's a life yielded wholeheartedly in service to God and others, with no concern for the consequences or danger, as long as you are advancing His Kingdom.

Now, design your life of reckless abandon for God. It would look something like this. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow can worry about itself. Sufficient for today is what today brings." Today is all you have; you don't need to worry about tomorrow today; tomorrow's worries can irritate you and occupy your thoughts tomorrow. And the greatest benefit about putting off your worries until tomorrow is that... tomorrow never comes.

It's time to face the dominant source of your preoccupation. It's obvious if you'll be honest with yourself, although it might be painful to admit. And if you overthink this exercise, you're at high risk of catching what's going around in the rationalization and self-deception pandemic, and the truth will remain elusive.

Here's the assignment. There are only two options: things of the world and things of God. To which do you dedicate most of your efforts—your time, resources, thoughts, and energy? Is your major concern for the provisions of the world and that is what dominates your efforts? That, according to Christ, is the pagan way of life. Or, is your main focus on the priorities of God, the things of the Kingdom of Heaven? If your rationalization and self-deception immune system defense was triggered, you already know the answer. There is no treatment for this disease if you ignore the proper diagnosis.

We learn from Christ that assessing one's accomplishments in life should never be measured by the abundance of the things he possesses. Why? Because he who accumulates earthly treasures as a measure of success and security, is not rich toward God. And in the end, concern about such worldly things should be designated to the proper time—never!

PROPHETIC SEED:

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:34 NKJV

PROPHETIC FRUIT:

"Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, **what manner of persons ought you to be** in holy conduct and godliness?" II Peter 3:11 NKJV

THE HIDING PLACE

1. Quietly Fulfilling Needs

A. Charitable deeds

- (1) Secret Charity
 - (a) This is how to perform your chartable deeds...
 - 1. ""Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right

hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees **in secret** will Himself reward you openly." Matthew 6:1-4 NKJV

B. Quiet Prayer

- (1) Secret Prayer
 - (a) This is where to pray...
 - 1. ""And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him." Matthew 6:5-8 NKJV

C. For God's Eyes Only

- (1) Secret Fasting
 - (a) This is how to fast...
 - 1. ""Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." Matthew 6:16-18 NKJV

PRAY LIKE THIS

2. The Model Prayer

A. Main Point

- (1) The Lord's Prayer
 - (a) Key components to include in your prayer life...
 - 1. "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Matthew 6:9-15 NKJV

THE EYE TRANSMITTER

3. Your Eyes Say Everything

A. Look in my eyes—what do you see?

- (1) Open Your Eyes
 - (a) Shatter your limited version of reality...
 - 1. ""The <u>lamp</u> of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" Matthew 6:22-23 NKJV
 - 2. "The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble. My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it [from within your heart] spring [from your eyes] the issues of life." Proverbs 4:19-23 NKJV
 - 3. "As in water face reflects face, So a man's heart reveals the man [through his eyes]. Hell and Destruction are never full; So the eyes [5869. ayin: showing mental and spiritual qualities, spring, fountain] of man are never satisfied. The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, And a man is valued [praised about] by what others say of him." Proverbs 27:19-21 NKJV
- (2) Eye influences...
 - (a) Certainly on one side of the two-edged-sword is that what you look upon, and take in through your eyes, effects your entire being (spirit, soul and body).
 - 1. "Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law." Psalms 119:18 NKJV
 - 2. "I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me." Psalms 101:3 NKJV
 - 3. "I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?" Job 31:1 NKJV
 - 4. "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. {16} For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, **the lust of the eyes**, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." I John 2:15-17 NKJV
- (3) Paul's Eye Conversion...
 - (a) Eyes Closed

1. "Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank." Acts 9:8-9 NKJV

(b) Eyes Open

1. "And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized. So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus." Acts 9:17-19 NKJV

(c) Eye Ministry

- 1. [Y'shua speaking] "But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, {18} to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'" Acts 26:16-18 NKJV
- (d) Eyes wide open—Spit in the eyes
 - 1. "Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him, and begged Him to touch him. {23} So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit [literally spit] on [or into] his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything. And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking." Then He put His hands on his eyes again and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly. Then He sent him away to his house, saying, "Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town."" Mark 8:22-26 NKJV
 - 2. "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known." I Corinthians 13:11-12 NKIV
- (e) Eyes wide open—be enlightened
 - 1. "Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, **making mention of you in my prayers**: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the

knowledge of Him, {18} the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints," Ephesians 1:15-18 NKJV

B. Light and Darkness

- (1) Light
 - (a) Because Y'shua compares the human eye to a lamp, an object that shines outward, you must also be concerned for what your eyes are transmitting.
 - 1. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16 NKJV
 - 2. "The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble. My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it [from within your heart] spring [from your eyes] the issues of life." Proverbs 4:19-23 NKJV
 - (b) The look on your face...
 - 1. "In the light of the king's face is life, And his favor is like a cloud of the latter rain." Proverbs 16:15 NKIV

(2) Darkness

- (a) Or, you are filled with death and darkness, and that is what emanates from your eyes!
 - 1. "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened." Romans 1:20-21 NKJV
 - 2. "My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. **Do not let them depart** from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart;" Proverbs 4:20-21 NKJV
 - 3. "Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding; For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law." Proverbs 4:1-2 NKJV
 - 4. "Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law." Psalms 119:18
- (b) The "Eyes are the window to the soul."
 - "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge [because their foolish hearts
 were darkened], God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not
 fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness,

maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them." Romans 1:28-32 NKJV

- (c) Eyes full of adultery that cannot cease from sin...
 - 1. "But these, like **natural brute beasts** made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, {14} having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children." II Peter 2:12-14 NKJV

TRUE TREASURE

4. Treasure

A. The Treasure of the Heart

- (1) What kingdom are you building?
 - (a) Your commitments, desires, investments and priorities are always a reflection of what is really in your heart...
 - 1. ""Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21 NKJV
- (2) The Heart (which always shows up in a man's eyes!)
 - (a) A man's heart reflects what is truly inside of him.
 - 1. "As in water face reflects face, So a man's heart reveals the man." Proverbs 27:19 NKJV
 - (b) A proud heart is an abomination!
 - 1. "Everyone **proud in heart is an abomination** to the Lord; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished." Proverbs 16:5 NKJV
 - (c) A wise heart fills a man's mouth with life!
 - "The wise in heart will be called prudent, And sweetness of the lips increases learning.
 Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it. But the correction of fools is folly. The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, And adds learning to his lips." Proverbs 16:21-23 NKJV

- (d) What is in a man's heart will eventually come out of his mouth...good or bad!
 - 1. "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." Luke 6:45 NKJV
- (e) The Lord cares nothing about a man's outer appearance; the only thing He is looking at is a man's heart!
 - "But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because
 I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward
 appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."" I Samuel 16:7 NKJV

B. Two Masters

- (1) God or mammon?
 - (a) You cannot serve two masters (hearts) simultaneously!
 - "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he
 will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." Matthew
 6:24 NKIV
- (2) Love for the World (mammon) or Love for God
 - (a) You cannot serve two masters (hearts) simultaneously!
 - 1. "Do not **love the world** or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the **love of the Father** is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." I John 2:15-17 NKJV

C. The Kingdom

- (1) Do not...
 - (a) Worry... It's is the Pagan way!
 - 1. "Therefore I say to you, **do not worry about your life,** what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?** "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? "**Therefore do not worry**, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall

we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <u>For after all these things the Gentiles seek.</u> For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things." Matthew 6:25-32 NKJV

- (b) Paul says..." Be anxious for nothing!"
 - 1. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV
- (c) Solomon says... don't lose sleep over your worries!
 - 1. "It is <u>vain</u> for you to rise up early, **To sit up late**, To eat the bread of sorrows; For so He gives His beloved sleep." Psalms 127:2 NKJV
 - 2. "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in **vain** [to make his name worthless will bring it to nothing], for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in **vain**." Exodus 20:7
- (2) Do...
 - (a) Seek first the Kingdom... it's God's way!
 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33 NKJV
- (3) And the best news of all!
 - (a) You should put all of your worries off until tomorrow...
 - 1. "Therefore **do not worry about tomorrow**, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. **Sufficient for the day is its own trouble**." Matthew 6:34 NKJV

D. Bigger barns

- (1) One's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses!
 - (a) Beware of covetousness!
 - 1. "Then one from the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." But He said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?" {15} And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."" Luke 12:13-15 NKJV
 - (b) **Warning** about "the abundance of the things" being your priority!
 - 1. "Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." ' But God said to him,

- 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."" Luke 12:16-21 NKIV
- 2. "Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost?" Luke 9:23-25 NKJV
- (2) Luke also has a beautiful rendition of "seek first the kingdom of God."
 - (a) Money bags which do not grow old!
 - 1. "But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. {33} **Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys.** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Luke 12:31-34 NKJV
 - (b) So then, since you now know where the true treasure is...what type of person ought you be in holy conduct and godliness?
 - "Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness?" II Peter 3:11 NKJV

E. The Reckless Abandon Life (5 characters traits)

- (1) Love God and others with your whole soul!
 - (a) The Two greatest commands...
 - 1. "Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, "Which is the first commandment of all?" Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."" Mark 12:28-31 NKJV
- (2) Focus on God and others, not self!
 - (a) Deny yourself and follow Christ
 - 1. "Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, **let him deny himself**, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." Luke 9:23 NKJV
 - (b) Give preference to others over your own interests!

- 1. "Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others." Philippians 2:1-4 NKJV
- 2. "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor **giving preference to one another**;" Romans 12:10 NKJV
- (3) Abandon your own plans and dreams!
 - (a) It is no longer about your life, but the life you now live, you live for Christ.
 - 1. "I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live**, but Christ lives in me; and **the life which I now live** in the flesh **I live by faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 NKJV
 - (b) Your life was purchased at a great price; you don't belong to you any longer.
 - 1. "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and **you are not your own? For you were bought at a price**; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV
- (4) Think in Bible!
 - (a) You have the mind of Christ.
 - 1. "For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.**" I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV
 - (b) Renewed your mind daily.
 - 1. "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind,** that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2 NKJV
 - (c) Take every thought captive in obedience to Christ.
 - "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled." Il Corinthians 10:4-6 NKJV
 - (d) Mediate on God's word day and night.
 - "Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night." Psalms 1:1-2 NKJV
- (5) Be Content!

- (a) Godliness with contentment is great gain—you were born with nothing and you will die with nothing (think Bigger Barns parable).
 - 1. "Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." I Timothy 6:6-10 NKJV
- (b) Be content in whatever conditions or circumstances you find yourself.
 - 1. "But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:10-13 NKIV

F. The conclusion of the matter...

- (1) The whole duty of man...sell it all and follow God!
 - (a) Fear God and keep His commandments
 - "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil." Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 NKJV
 - (b) What must you do to get there?
 - 1. ""Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." Matthew 13:44 NKJV
 - ""Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had
 found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it." Matthew 13:45-46
 NKJV