

THE PEACE OF GOD

by Bill Subritzky

One of the first things we find that happens to us when we surrender our lives to Jesus Christ is that the peace of God enters us. It is an indescribable peace, something which the world knows nothing about. This is a wonderful gift from the Lord.

Many people miss out on this peace because after they surrender their life to God they do not continue to actively pursue Him by reading the Word, obeying Him or attending church with other believers.

This peace is something that grows in us. At the beginning of our walk with God we may sense that we need to foster it by walking close to the Lord.

As we do so a sense of God's peace within us begins to develop. Instead of something which comes and goes, as we follow the Lord it becomes a permanent fixture with our lives. We need to nurture it by our obedience to God.

In His last talk with His disciples, Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27.)

He also said, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace." (John 16:33.)

This peace is something that lives within our very being. Despite all the problems going on around us we can enjoy this peace as we focus our mind on the Lord.

Often with this peace there comes a great anointing as though the Lord saying, "My child I love you."

The storms of life can rage around us but when we know this peace we know that as Jesus has promised, the Helper, the Holy Spirit is with us and He will guide us into all truth.

When Jesus rose from the dead and met His disciples for the first time in His resurrected body, His first words were "Peace be with you." (John 20:19.)

After He had shown them the nail prints in His hands and His side, again He said to them, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." (John 20:21.)

He sends us out with the power of the Holy Spirit and with His peace.

On the day of Pentecost when the power of God was falling mightily on the disciples, the Apostle Peter quoted the prophecy about Jesus from the Old Testament. "I foresaw the Lord always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken." (Acts 2:25.)

I have found that as I have believed this Scripture I have found both the peace of God in every situation and also the power of the Holy Spirit.

God is with me at my right hand as I believe for His power to touch all the people around me. I sense that He is walking with me. In my outreach meetings I hear His voice giving me the names of people to pray for in the audience and how to pray for them.

I always believe that He is walking beside me through every difficulty and problem. I know His mighty peace deep within my heart regardless of what people are saying or believing or whatever events are occurring around me.

You can have the same privilege as you surrender your life absolutely to the Lord and allow Him to walk and talk with you giving you His peace which passes all understanding.

"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.)

The final piece of wonderful advice from the Holy Spirit through Paul is as follows, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8-9.)

We pray that the Prince of Peace will manifest His power, love, peace and presence mightily to you and your loved ones.

Compiled by Bill Subritzky and produced by Dove Ministries More articles and resources are available at <u>www.doveministries.com</u>