

Series: Striving Together For the Faith

THE PEACE OF GOD

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

Text: Philippians 4:7

Philippians 4:7

⁷ And ***the peace of God***, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Introduction:

We live in a restless world. We live in an unsettled world, an unstable world, and an uncertain world.

The words that Job spoke many years ago are certainly true of mankind:

Job 14:1

¹ *Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.*

We live a life full of cares, and troubles. All this tends to give us a restless spirit.

However God wants us to enjoy His peace which passes all understanding.

Remember we can never enjoy the peace of God until we have made peace with God. That's accomplished through salvation – then after salvation we should live our lives with the peace of God ruling in our lives.

Notice:

1. THE REASONS FOR A RESTLESS SPIRIT

Philippians 4:6

⁶ ***Be careful for nothing***; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

The word careful means to be anxious about.

Why do we have a restless spirit so often?

A. We Worry Instead of Pray

Worry and prayer cannot stand together.

When we are worrying we find it hard to pray. When we are praying we find it hard to worry.

If we would pray more we would worry less.

Worry is the interest we pay on the debt of unbelief with which we have mortgaged life.

Not only do we worry instead of praying which results in us becoming restless but also:

B. We Look At Our Problems Instead of Trusting God's Promises

Why do we take our major problems to the Lord but somehow believe our minor problems are not worthy of His consideration?

Note what Peter states:

1 Peter 5:7

⁷ Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

We are not to question. We are not to qualify. We are to cast all our care upon Him.

Note not only the "Reasons For A Restless Spirit" but also:

2. THE REMEDY FOR A RESTLESS SPIRIT

Philippians 4:6

⁶ *Be careful for nothing; **but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.***

A. Take To God Every Care

We can pray about small things and great things.

We can go to the throne of grace asking God to supply our materials needs—food, clothing, shelter, and we can also go to God asking Him to supply our spiritual needs—faith, boldness, opportunities to witness, and growth in grace.

We should never put any boundaries on the care of God for us.

We should never think that are daily needs are insignificant to God because in comparison to His greatness and glory all things are small with Him.

Consider how GREAT HE IS and how small we are in comparison to Him; and yet He cares about every detail of our lives!

Not only should we “Take To God Every Care” but also we need to:

B. Trust and Believe In God's Control

We would find ourselves less restless if we were more trustful.

The question we have to answer is, "Is God in control of all things or isn't He?"

Remember:

Psalm 37:5

⁵ Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

We must pray!

We must believe that each time we pray, praying in the will of God, GOD WILL!

If we are praying in the will of God we have His promise:

1 John 5:14-15

¹⁴ And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

¹⁵ And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Remember: The Prayer That Kills Care Is the Prayer That Perseveres.

Notice not only “The Reason and Remedy of A Restless Spirit” but note lastly:

3. THE REJOICING OF A RESTING SPIRIT

Philippians 4:7

⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Note:

A. Peace Is Promised

Note the words: “Peace of God.”

What sweet, encouraging words.

When we live our lives obeying verse 6 the results will be a peace that passes our understanding.

When we are anxious and fretting about “things,” we are not abiding in “the peace of God” and when we rest in the peace, trusting God fully, we are not anxious.

Note only is “Peace Promised” but also:

B. Peace Is Our Protection

Isaiah 26:3

³ *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.*

The word “keep” means to be a watcher in advance, to protect, keep.

The peace of God acts as a guard, at the door of the heart and mind...When we dwell upon our problems our hearts and minds become seriously affected, so much that we go all to pieces.

This is Satan's strong point of attack...But God's peace guards our heart and mind to prevent any successful attack of the enemy.

Note what the Lord stated in John:

John 14:27

²⁷ *Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

The peace He gives is a peace that money cannot buy, the world cannot give, not position or popularity can attain.

Close:

We are to be careful for nothing and prayerful for everything and thankful for all things.

Friends, when we place everything trustingly in our Heavenly Father's hands in prayer, we are assured He will keep our hearts and minds.

The song writer stated it this way:

*What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble any-where?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus know our every weakness,*

Take it to the Lord in prayer.

*Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?--
Precious Saviour, still our refuge--
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.*