

THE PEACE OF GOD

Pastor Katy Reeves

We can live in a place with God where His Peace permeates everything. Just peace, nothing else. No worries, no stress; yes, troubles will come, but God's peace will enable you to be in control. Let's find out how to live in this place.

I. John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.]

Jesus said this to His disciples on the night He was betrayed; the very night that He entered into His passion and suffered for us. Jesus' last will, and the greatest gift He wanted to leave for His disciples before His crucifixion was the gift of peace.

II. Isaiah 9:6

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father of Eternity, Prince of Peace.

Jesus was born to be the Prince of Peace. When He was on earth, He walked in such peace that He was always in control.

John 8:59. They tried to stone Him once, but He just walked through the midst of them unharmed. No one could touch Him. He had perfect and absolute peace!

Mark 4:35-41. The devil ruffled up a storm in the Sea of Galilee, but Jesus just continued sleeping in the boat. The devil's attack did not wake Him, only the cries of His disciples did.

John 10:17-18. Even in His death, He was in control. No one took His life from Him. He laid His life down. He made the choice in the garden to lay

down His life for us. Jesus was and is always in perfect control.

One of the reasons He was so powerful in this Earth was that He walked in the peace of God. He lived there!

III. John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; My own peace I now give and bequeath to you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you.

The word 'peace' here is the word 'shalom' in Hebrew. It means wellness, wholeness, completeness, as well as peace of heart and mind. So having shalom means having every part of you--spirit, soul and body--well. So what did Jesus mean when He said, 'Shalom I leave with you. Not the world's shalom, but My shalom' ? This is what He meant: 'The shalom you saw Me living in; the shalom you saw Me sleep in, in that boat; the shalom you saw Me walk in, in the midst of the people who wanted to stone Me; the shalom that renders the devil powerless to touch Me; this shalom, My shalom, I give to you. This is the peace that Jesus has bequeathed to us. It is not a worldly peace that comes through soothing music, meditation, or deep breathing. It is more robust than that! It is not dependent on circumstances and it works in the midst of the storms of life. This peace gives us control over our circumstances!

IV. If Jesus has given me this peace, then why am I still so troubled and worried about so many things?

It is because you have allowed your heart to be troubled. Notice that immediately after Jesus said, 'Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you...' He said, 'Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid'. You have to let not your heart be troubled or afraid. The Lord cannot 'let not' for you. Your spouse cannot 'let not' for you. I cannot 'let not' for you. YOU have to 'let not' for yourself!

Many people are guarding their finances; careers; children' health and so on. But the Lord does not want us to guard these things; instead, He wants us to guard our hearts.

V. Proverbs 4:23

Keep and guard your heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life.

We are to guard our hearts above all else. If we will guard that which is inside, God will guard all the other things on the outside. If we will let not our hearts be troubled or afraid, righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit will start flowing in our hearts. That is actually seeking first the Kingdom of God, and all those things on the outside that we need will be added to us! ([Matthew 6:33](#)) This should bring us relief.

We don't have to worry about so many things. We just have to guard our hearts. People make foolish decisions when their hearts are troubled. They do things that they would otherwise not do.

So guard your heart. If we will guard our hearts from being troubled or afraid, then if it is a miracle we need, a miracle is what we will get!

VI. [John 14:27](#) is the key to living in this place of peace.

We all have our areas of weaknesses and strengths. What troubles me may not trouble you and vice versa. The devil knows which buttons to push for each of us.

The way you guard your heart from being troubled and afraid is to confess the Word of God. Whenever trouble comes to your heart or you feel fearful, say 'Let not my heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid'.

And you will release the power for the fulfillment of the verse. Faith begins in your heart and is released through your words!

The peace of God will start flowing in your heart. For example, some people worry and fret over their relationships, others over health issues and others over finances. Remember this: the devil cannot get you in the areas of your life that you are not concerned about! The areas that you are not troubled about are the areas where you see the Grace of God at its best and His blessings at their richest!

VII. [John 14:26-27](#)

But the Comforter, Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthenener, Standby, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.

Notice also that just before Jesus talks about giving His disciples His peace, He talks about the Holy Spirit's guidance. Jesus is telling us that the Holy Spirit teaches us all things on the wavelength of peace. In other words, if you guard your heart from being troubled by a problem, if you refuse to worry about it and just abide in His peace, the Holy Spirit will 'teach you all things'. He will show you the way out of the situation!

If the Holy Spirit teaches us all things on the wavelength of peace, then we should already be aware of Satan's modus operandi (his mode of operating). Worry and cares are the opposite of peace. The first thing Satan does is look for an area of your life that he can attack. But, he knows that he has no power to harm you. He knows that Jesus stripped him of all his power over you, so the only thing he can do is to get you to worry.

Remember what **1 Peter 5:8** says? Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. What is the preceding verse say?casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. **1 Peter 5:7**

In other words, whenever you are full of cares and are not casting your cares on the Lord, you become 'devour-able' to the devil. But the opposite is also true: the devil cannot manage a peaceful Christian! No, he has to get you ruffled, troubled, worried and fearful first before he can touch you! Know this! When you begin to worry about a particular area of your life-- watch for it--problems will start popping up in that area.

Illustration:

Imagine that there are many pipes coming down from heaven. These are flexible pipes and they are all ministering God's manifold grace into every area of your life. There is a grace for healing flowing into your life, a grace for prosperity, a grace for your marriage, and so on. Once you are a believer, you are righteous by faith and you have 'access by faith into this grace in which we stand' (**Romans 5:2**) When it comes to the benefits and blessings of God, all of us, whether we are pastors or ushers, enjoy the same inheritance. We are all on equal footing on the ground of grace.

When Jesus died on the cross, there was an earthquake and God's heart burst open, and streams of His love, grace, mercy and blessings just flowed out! And since God is eternal, these streams are eternal. They

have been flowing ever since Jesus died. They are flowing all the time! But what happens is that when we worry, it is as if we are grabbing hold of those flexible pipes, and hindering the flow of God's grace into those areas of our lives. The more we worry, the tighter we grip the pipe and the more it becomes choked. Is His grace still being supplied from Heaven? YES!, but the pipe is clogged with our worries and cares. Conversely, in the areas that we are not worried about, His grace flows freely, producing threefold, sixty fold, and finally hundredfold results! So when you are ruffled, troubled, worried and fearful about a particular area of your life, say your finances, you are giving the devil access into that area. The devil has no power to just stop the grace that is flowing into your finances. He cannot touch that pipe. God will not allow it. The only one who can touch it is YOU! Since the devil knows he has no power over you he will give you lying symptoms to make you worry. All he can do is hope that you will be troubled. Once you are troubled and worried, you begin to hinder the flow of God's grace into that particular area of your life. Worry clogs the pipes!

Conclusion:

So refuse to worry! Let not your heart be troubled, neither let your hearts be afraid. When there is something you are concerned about, before it turns into worry, bring it to the Lord in prayer, just as **Philippians 4:6-7** tells us to do. Don't be anxious. There is no use praying worried prayers. Just tell the Lord about the problem and cast your cares on Him, knowing that He cares for you. Then just let it go and begin thanking Him that because He has heard you, He is already at work on the situation. If you do this and refuse to be troubled, 'the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus'.

Remember: Satan cannot handle a peaceful Christian! Father God loves us so much! He is telling us 'I am not telling you not to worry for the sake of not worrying; I am telling you not to worry because I love you so much and I want to see you happy. I want you to enjoy life and most of all, enjoy My love in your life'.

Church, I hope that you will not forget what the Lord has said. Your Father wants you living life carefree, enjoying His love and knowing the He watches over you. He really loves you. And perfect love--knowing this perfect love--will cast out every fear in your life.

Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to your stature? So let not

your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid, and the grace of God will flow freely in your life, causing you to see His blessings at their richest!