

## Discover the Peace of God

### Scripture:

Psalm 37:1-11 “Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. 2For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herb. 3Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. 4Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. 5Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. 6He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday. 7Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. 8Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm. 9For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth. 10 For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more. 11But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.”

### Introduction:

These are tense days for many people all over the earth. Wars and rumors of wars abound. Evil men continue to threaten society at large. When suggestions are made to deal with the evil, even more people grow anxious and tense because no one can be quite certain what the consequences will be if we don't leave “well enough alone”. The scripture is not quiet on the subject of peace. Even in the time of great turmoil, God's people can discover a peace that passes all understanding. How is this done? It's done by paying attention to the word of God.

Our scripture shows us at least five ways to discover peace when our circumstances are uncertain.

### I. We must put our complete trust in God if we are to discover peace.

John 14:1 “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.”

- A. We must come to the place where we realize that guns, tanks and bombs will not bring security to us.
- B. The military nor the police can give us peace of mind when things are falling apart all around us.
- C. We must set God above all other means of obtaining peace.  
Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.”
  1. We can't think our way into peace. Our mind is way too carnal and self indulgent.
  2. Don't make any decisions and take any action without His council if you want to discover the peace of God.

### II. We must walk in obedience if we are to discover peace.

Psalm 119:143-144 “Trouble and anguish have overtaken me, Yet Your commandments are my delights. 144The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; Give me understanding, and I shall live.

- A. If we do not obey the Lord, we cannot know His peace for our conscience will assail us.
- B. Doing things the way the world does them will not, can not bring peace.  
John 16:33 “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Title: Obedience Means Rhythm

When the heart's wrong, there can't be peace. Selfishness is a gangrene, eating at the very vitals. Sin is a cancer, poisoning the blood. Peace is the rhythm of our wills with Jesus' love-will. Disobedience breaks the music. Failure to keep in touch makes discord. The notes jar and grate. We have broken off. The peace can't get in. Jesus made peace by his blood. We get it only by keeping in full touch with him.

-- S.D. Gordon in The Bent-Knee Time. Christianity Today, Vol. 34, no. 4.

**III. We must become intimate with the Lord if we are going to discover peace.**

II Thessalonians 3:16 "Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all."

- A. You cannot get something from another person's spirit without getting to know them.
- B. You can learn facts and get figures, but in order to experience what someone is, demands intimacy.

**IV. We must practice patience if we are going to discover peace.**

Hebrews 6:10-12 "For God is not unjust to forget your work and  labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. 11And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, 12that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

- A. Our answers don't always come overnight. If we can wait for the Lord's response, we could lose all confidence.

I Corinthians 10:12 "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. 13No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

- 1. We are not the only ones that have gone through what we're going through.
- 2. God will always make a way if we will just wait for Him
- 3. Our problem is that we take matters into our own hands before God's answer is revealed.

- B. As we run with patience, we can fix our attention upon Jesus, but will increase our patience.

Hebrews 12:1-2 "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

**V. We must learn to rest if we are going to discover peace.**

- A. True rest comes in turning every thing over to Christ Jesus.

Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

- B. We have a promise of rest if we refuse to let our circumstances overwhelm us.

Galatians 6:9 "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."

- C. Too many of us allow our situations to so control our lives that we find ourselves unable to stop and rest in Jesus

Some time ago, a newspaper in Tacoma, Washington, carried the story of Tattoo, the basset hound. Tattoo didn't intend to go for an evening run, but when his owner shut his leash in the car door and took off with Tattoo still outside the vehicle, he had no choice.

A motorcycle officer named Terry Filbert noticed a passing vehicle with something that appeared to be dragging behind it. As he passed the vehicle, he saw the object was a basset hound on a leash.

"He was picking them up and putting them down as fast as he could," said Filbert. He chased the car to a stop, and Tattoo was rescued, but not before the dog reached a speed of twenty to twenty-five miles per hour, and rolled over several times.

(The dog was fine but asked not to go out for an evening walk for a long time.)