



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Living as God intended ... By Gareth

READ: PHILIPPIANS 4:7

1. OPEN TO RECEIVE THIS PEACE.

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between you and God now: "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God."
Rom 5 vs 1-3

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Psalm 103 v 12

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which keeps the man in order so that within him there is "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding."

2. HOW THIS PEACE IS TO BE OBTAINED.

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Week 01

- *Psalm 61 vs 1-4*; The Psalmist needed this peace and received it.
- *John 14 v 27*; Jesus offers it, will you accept it and live in it in 2021?
- *Paul says, v4*; “*Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice.*” If you want to have peace of mind make God your joy, and place all your joy in God. You cannot rejoice in yourself, but you ought to rejoice in God. You cannot always rejoice in your circumstances, for they greatly vary, but the Lord never changes.
- Delight yourselves in the Lord. Who has such a God as you have? Who has such a Friend, such a Father, such a Saviour, such a Comforter as you have in the Lord your God?
- The disciples in the boat knew Jesus and were with Jesus yet they did not live in the peace that passes all understanding because they looked at the changing circumstances rather than the unchanging God.
- Paul tells us to be **careful** for nothing, to be **prayerful for everything**, and to be **thankful for anything**. Anyone who can keep these, will be quite sure to have a peaceful mind. “**Be careful for nothing**”; that is— leave your care with God. Having done your best to provide things honest in the sight of all men, take no distressing, disturbing, anxious thought about anything, but cast your burden on the Lord. Then **pray about everything**, little as well as great, joyous as well as sad. “In every thing by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known unto God.”
- **Thankfulness** is the great promoter of peace; it is the mother and nurse of restfulness. Doubtless, our peace is often broken because we receive mercies from God without acknowledging them.
- If we render to the Lord the fragrant incense of holy gratitude we shall find our soul perfumed with the sweet peace of God.

3. THE OPERATION OF THIS BLESSED PRIVILEGE UPON OUR HEARTS

- The peace of God will keep our hearts and minds. The Greek word is “*phroureo*”, which signifies keeping guard, keeping as with a garrison: so completely and so effectually does the peace of God keep our hearts and minds.
- It is a very serious thing for a Christian to be living without peace. “*Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people,*” are God’s words to his prophets, because he knows that when we lose comfort, or lose peace, we lose one of the most valuable pieces of armour.