

Peace That Passes All Understanding

The apostle Paul referred to a peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7). What kind of peace can you and I have that will pass all understanding? We live in a world that does not know real peace. Our world is in constant turmoil and dismay. This attitude often “rubs” off on the child of God. Peace does not come by mere accident or mistake. In order to have real peace, we must work diligently in trying to obtain inward tranquility. **Peace is not the absence of problems, but rather having the proper mindset in the face of problems.** It is no secret that we all face problems! Some more severe than others, but nonetheless we still all face them. How can Christians find peace in the face of problems? How can you and I learn to have the peace that passes all understanding in a world that is in complete mayhem?

I believe that in order to enjoy real peace, you must, in the first place, *trust less in yourself and trust more in God.* Many times, we try to handle daily struggles on our own, and it is soon apparent that we fall short. The prophet Jeremiah said, “O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps” (Jeremiah 10:23). You and I are inadequate when it comes to trying to solve all of our problems alone. We need God’s help each day to direct our steps through his holy Word. There are struggles and problems that will come about that are too big for us to handle alone; we need God’s help! Learning to trust less in ourselves and trust more in God takes time and prayerful effort! Paul gave the real formula for this peace in the preceding verse (Philippians 4:6), where he said, “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.” Prayer is essentially letting God take control because you are not adequate to handle life on your own. Peace that passes understanding comes about by trusting less in ourselves and trusting more in God!

I believe that in order to enjoy real peace, you must, in the second place, *work less for yourself and work more for God.* An old familiar saying applies, “Idle hands are the devil’s workshop.” When we are idle or merely working for our own selfish gain, we cannot enjoy real peace! When Paul, by inspiration wrote Philippians 4:7, he was a prisoner for the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul was not working for his own gain, but for the gain of the kingdom of Christ. When we learn to busy ourselves with the Master’s work and not our own work, we are on the road to a peace-filled life. The Prince of Peace said, “My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work” (John 4:34). When we learn to work less for ourselves and more for God, peace and serenity will surround our lives!

May God help us to enjoy the peace that passes all understanding. “Peace, Peace, Perfect Peace” will be our song when we learn to trust less in ourselves and trust more in God and when we work less for ourselves and work more for God! Let’s trust God and work for him and enjoy the peace that passes all understanding!

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