

Peace is the Umpire

- A STATE OF MIND (TRUST – FAITH)
- *You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Isa. 26:3*
- A STATE OF ACTION – REQUEST / EXPECT
- *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:6-7*
- If we don't have peace ... We need to look here.

The State of Action of Peace

- *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:6-7*
- A conditional Promise – meet the conditions and the promise is yours.
- First we learn and understand the conditions
- Second we fulfill those conditions.
- Third, we receive the promise.

The Conditions of Peace

- 1. Be anxious for nothing.
- 2. In everything by prayer, supplication with thanksgiving.
- 3. Let your requests be made known to God.
- This is our part. It sounds easy, but takes work.
- It is a portion of the secret Paul had learned.
- ***I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned the secret both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. Phil 4:11-12***

The Conditions of Peace

- This is how God keeps us in perfect peace,
- ***You will keep him in perfect peace***, *Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. Isa 26:3*
- This is how God grants us peace.
- Now ***may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way***. *The Lord be with you all. 2 Th. 3:16*
- This is how we let the peace of God rule in our hearts and cast our anxiety upon him.
- And ***let the peace of God rule in your hearts***, *to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Col 3:15-16*

In Nothing Be Anxious

- This is the most difficult part!
- The Greek would read this differently because of the nuances of language. “*in nothing be continually anxious*”
- The Holy Spirit is not forbidding initial anxiety.
- When we get a late night phone call or find out about a serious problem, anxiety is natural.
- But we must not let it continue.

In Nothing Be Anxious

- But we must not let it continue.
- As long as there is still something for us to do, anxiety is useful as motivation.
- But after all that can be done is done, the anxiety must be moved from our shoulders to God.
- *casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. 1Pet. 5:7*
- If we can't do this, then this is the condition we must assess first.
- Why can't we do it?

Why Can't We Do It?

- We don't have the wisdom yet?
- *My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 5 **If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. James 1:2-5***
- Two Steps for Wisdom
- 1. Learn all the facts in Scripture and trust them.
- 2. Ask for the wisdom to know how to do it.

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 - Two Steps for Wisdom
 - 1. Learn all the facts in Scripture and trust them.
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- We don't know all the verses:
 - 1. Learn the verses
 - 2. Memorize the verses
 - 3. Start applying the verses
 - 4. Ask for Wisdom to make them part of our life.

Passages Leave No Doubt

- *“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you”*
- *“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace”*
- *And His name will be called ... Prince of Peace*
- *To guide our feet into the way of peace.*
- *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,*
- *“Come to Me, ... and I will give you rest.*
- *Take My yoke...and you will find rest for your souls*
- *the kingdom of God is ... peace*
- *the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way*
- We have to learn all this until it is second nature, the natural response when problems arise.

Trust is the foundation of Wisdom

- 1st we trust God to fix what we can't control
- *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Rom. 8:28*
- 2nd we trust God's intent to protect and resolve
- *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Rom 8:31-33*
- This will bring perfect peace!
- *You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Isa. 26:3*

When we Know the “Secret”

- It is based on our previous relationship with God.
- When we know that we walk with God...
- *All things work together for good...*
- The prepared and unprepared...
- *Unless the Lord had been my help, **My soul would soon have settled in silence.** 18 If I say, "My foot slips," Your mercy, O Lord, will hold me up. 19 **In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul.** Ps. 94:17-19*
- *settled in silence. (depression, gloom, woe,)*
- *Your comforts delight my soul.*
- This is the secret: Job, David, Paul, Jesus, etc.

The Second Condition

- *In everything by prayer, supplication thanksgiving.*
- Every circumstance bringing anxiety is to be taken to God through prayer, supplication and thanksgiving.
- This sounds simple, but it is very important.
- The message of this condition is that we must work on our life of prayer.
- These anxieties are incorporated into our supplications, prayers and thanksgivings.
- Anxiety isn't when we start praying, the foundation of casting anxiety is learning how to pray.
- As in most complicated subjects it is the prerequisites that bring success.

The Third Condition

- *3. Let your requests be made known to God.*
- Every anxiety comes down to a request to God.
- The request is based on the need.
- Once we know the need and bring it to God, we have fulfilled all the conditions.
- But the conditions require faith and trust.
- ***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. Pr. 3:5-6
- You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, ***because he trusts in You.*** Isa. 26:3

The Promise

- *the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil 4:7*
- The passage infers God's intervention.
- If it passes all understanding, it is not a natural event, but something that comes as a result of meeting the conditions.
- If we don't have the promise we haven't met the conditions.
- Every promise with conditions is just as absolute as any other promise. The different is simple.
- If we don't have the promise it is within us and not Him.

- *In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah: we have a strong city; salvation will he appoint for walls and bulwarks. 2 Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth faith may enter in. 3 Thou wilt keep (him) in perfect peace, (whose) mind (is) stayed (on thee); because he trusteth in Isa 26:1-4*

It is Woven into our Faith

- It comes primarily as an outgrowth of full trust and confidence in God's promises.
- *Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." 6 So we may boldly say: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" Heb 13:5-6*
- This peace of God will guard our hearts and our thoughts in Christ Jesus. Once we see what it is, we are then prepared to do what Paul commands. We are to allow this peace to rule in our hearts.
- God has promised this peace, offers and gives peace. It is up to us to allow it to play umpire in our hearts.

Prince of Peace Control My Will

- *Prince of peace control my will*
- *Bid this struggling heart be still*
- *Bid my fears and doubtings cease*
- *Hush my spirit into peace.*
- *May Thy will, not mine be done;*
- *May Thy will and mine be one;*
- *Chase these doubtings from my heart*
- *Now thy perfect peace impart*
- *To all this we can now add:*
- *I'm Standing on the Promise of God.*