

# Becky Combee Ministries, Inc.

## *Peace! Peace!*

BY BECKY COMBEE

The leadership of the Spirit of the Lord is crucial to success in our lives. When God deals with us and we obey, the pathway of success is paved by His power. He provides our strength as we proceed in the assurance of His instructions. God always validates His orders with His power.

This interaction of Word and Spirit reminds me of an incident that happened years ago. I was riding one of two horses sent to pull



*Sarah Lynn Gray, Becky's biggest fan*

a truck out of the mud. Although the truck had power, it continued to spin its tires in one spot. In order to move, it needed to be on "solid ground."

The Word of God is the pillar and solid ground of truth. It leads us to green pastures and still waters, that place of refreshing, because we obey the word God has spoken to us. With His instructions clearly defined in our heart, our mind is not in distress. It is not

trembling, shaking or overwhelmed by adverse circumstances. Because we are focused on God and His Word, we have peace beyond understanding.<sup>1</sup>

When I teach Bible classes, I frequently say, "The Scripture does not say a lot of different things, but it says a few things many different ways." It doesn't matter if we talk

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about the spirit of man, the inward man, or the hidden man. Each of these expressions highlights "man made in God's image."<sup>2</sup>

One of my personal favorite similarities is the counsel of the prophet Isaiah on "perfect peace" and the words of the apostle Paul about "peace beyond understanding." Wouldn't perfect peace be the same as peace beyond understanding? I believe so! These two expressions draw our heart toward the same goal. God desires His children to have "peace, peace, wonderful peace."<sup>3</sup>

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you."<sup>4</sup> Worldly peace depends on circumstances. If our car runs efficiently, our children are successful, and our job has promoted us, we have peace. But when the opposite is true, our pulse races, our heart skips a beat, and our mind contracts and expands like the sail on a wind-driven vessel. Where is

perfect peace?

The prophet Isaiah answers this question when he says perfect peace comes if our minds are stayed on God.<sup>5</sup> The word “stayed” means to continue in a place, to abide, remain, tarry, or linger.<sup>6</sup> If our minds continually abide in God and His promises, we will have His peace.

But it is easy for our thoughts to go astray. Often they are tossed about by our physical senses which perpetually remind us of every disastrous possibility and strong opponent. There is no peace when our mind leads us away from God’s Word.

The prophet Habakkuk paints a graphic picture of troubled times and gives great counsel. He reported that the fig tree did not blossom, the vines did not produce fruit, the olive crop had failed, and the fields were empty. He also said there were no flocks in the field or herds in the barn. This record of overwhelming financial loss should have caused immeasurable mental stress.<sup>7</sup> But hear his words. “Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God

is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds’ feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.” Like the prophet, we can rise above calamity in God’s strength.<sup>8</sup> We can rejoice in the God of our salvation – the one who delivers, saves, and prospers. Through every difficulty, our heart can be filled with joy.

How can you and I know this peace and joy in our most painful situations? The apostle Paul said, “Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.”<sup>9</sup> Here is the key. Do we believe God will save, rescue, and deliver? If our faith is in Him, we can experience peace beyond understanding and know “joy unspeakable and full of glory.”<sup>10</sup> If we “turn [our] eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, [then] the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace.”<sup>11</sup> There will be peace. Peace, peace, perfect peace. It is the will of God.

<sup>1</sup> Php 4:7 <sup>2</sup> Ge 1:27 <sup>3</sup> "Wonderful Peace" Words by Warren D. Cornell, 1899 alt. <sup>4</sup> Jn 14:27 <sup>5</sup> Is 26:3 <sup>6</sup> Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 1959 <sup>7</sup> Hab 3:17 <sup>8</sup> Hab 3:18-19 <sup>9</sup> Ro 15:13 <sup>10</sup> 1Pe 1:8 <sup>11</sup> "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" Words & Music By Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

## *Conversation With God*

BY SUZANNE WILLIAMS

"God, it's dark in here. If I could just reach the switch ..."

"The light's already on, Suzanne."

"It is? Then why can't I see anything?"

"You're blocking the light."

"I am? How am I doing that?"

"Well, for starters you're standing too far off. Come closer."

"But God, if I come closer then You'll see my mistakes."

"What mistakes?"

"Well, you remember. The other day when I got so angry."

"You did? I'm sorry. I've forgotten."

"Oh. But we talked about it. I told you I ..."

"Did you ask me for forgiveness?"

"Yes."

"No wonder I don't remember. Here, take my hand. I'll guide you."

"Gee, this is great. I think I can see you now. But what's that huge shadow?"

"That's the object you placed between us."

"Wow, I did that?"

"Yes."

"How do I move it? It's awfully heavy."

"Here, I'll do it. There, how's that?"

"That's perfect! Wow, God, it's so much nicer up here – quiet and peaceful. Hey, look! I can see my feet now!"

"Why don't you stand here by Me from now on? I like to look at you."

"Great idea. Thanks, God. You're the best."

*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. (1Jn 1:5)*