



Peace Through The Storm

by Becky Combee

Trauma and challenges come to everyone. Yet in the midst of every difficulty, our great and mighty God enables us to overcome. He is the Captain of salvation, who leads us to victory. He is our Shepherd, providing pastures of rest that restore our soul. As a loving Father, He supplies all our needs, and in times of sickness, He is the Lord our Physician. He is always present with us, enveloping us in peace. He is more than enough.

THE WORK OF SATAN

The great enemy of our soul, Satan, seeks to destroy our walk with God. He desires to overwhelm us until we are sure victory is beyond our reach and we are certain that we will not overcome. In that moment, it seems that we have no Physician, no Provider, and no Shepherd to guide us. We cannot envision the work of God in our lives. Peace has completely escaped us, and God seems very far away.

All the while, the Scripture records that God is touched with the feeling of our infirmities.¹ He understands our weaknesses and invites us to come boldly to His throne. There, He will pour His

mercy upon us, and with His hand of grace, He will help us.²

Therefore, we stand before our heavenly Father, surrendering every worry, all our fear, and every moment of dread. We know that He cares for us and will help us. The apostle Peter writes, "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you."³ This loving care is far more than concern. It is the power of God working diligently on our behalf. It is the helping hand of God.

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
(Mt 11:28)

A SURE WORD

God does not and cannot lie.⁴ He always keeps His Word. In 1 Kings 8:56, King Solomon validates this great truth saying, "Blessed be the Lord, that hath given rest unto his people Israel according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise."

We may promise our child new tennis shoes, saying, "We will do that Saturday." Saturday comes, and we delay our shopping trip, promising, "We will do that Monday." Did we fail? Yes, but only by one word. Saturday has now become a

commitment for Monday.

Can we grasp the magnitude of a great and mighty God who fulfils every word? Probably not! Yet, the thought sets our heart to dancing. Imagine! God speaks and every word comes to pass. He always accomplishes His will and prospers His plan. No wonder the prophet Isaiah says the mountains sing and the trees clap their hands.⁵ At the sound of God's Word, they are filled with joy. Surely, we should be filled with joy too.

THE PLAN OF GOD

What then is God's plan for us? He wants us to live without worry, anxiety, or torment. He desires that we wait patiently on Him because He is working for us.⁶ He promises to strengthen us so that we do not faint or grow weary.⁷

Like in Daniel in the lions' den, we rest. We encourage ourselves in the Lord just as David did when his city was burned to the ground and his wives were taken captive. Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace, we declare, "Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us...and he will deliver us."⁸ Because our mind is fixed on our God, we have perfect peace.⁹

This is God's will! Oh, not the peace that simply tolerates difficulties, but peace that anticipates the delivering power of our great God. Is that kind of peace possible? Maybe we should ask Daniel. He knew God's overwhelming peace in the midst of trauma. I am sure he would tell us about the miracle-working power of God.

Our "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."¹⁰ We can lean on Him in any situation. He will help us! He will give peace beyond understanding. I'm so glad we can have peace through every storm.

¹Heb 4:15 ²Heb 4:16 ³1Pe 5:7 NLT ⁴Tit 1:2 ⁵Is 54:11-12
⁶Ps 37:7 ⁷Is 40:29-31 ⁸Dan 3:17 ⁹Is 26:3 ¹⁰Ps 46:1

Complete Peace

From the book "FEARLESS"
by SUZANNE D. WILLIAMS

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee (Isa 26:3).

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Php 4:7).

When I worship God, when I "stay" my mind on Him, I place myself in His presence. I in effect "keep" myself in His peace.

"Keep" is an important word in these verses because in both the Hebrew and Greek texts it means "to guard."¹ God's peace guards, or protects, my heart and my mind.²

Yet what is peace? The definition of the word "peace" in these texts further helps our understanding of God's promise. In the Greek, "peace" means "a state of tranquility, exemption from the rage and havoc of war, harmony, security, safety, and prosperity."³ The Hebrew expands this to include "completeness, soundness, welfare, health, and contentment."⁴

God's peace is COMPLETE peace! It is all-encompassing. Nothing that we need has been left out – nothing! If you think about that, what would peace be if certain aspects were missing? Where is the peace for someone in great debt, if he cannot believe in peace for his finances? Where is the peace for someone with marital troubles, if God left peace out of marriage?

God never does things halfway. His greatest desire for man is a long life and eternal salvation.⁵ We should not expect anything less from His great love for us. Love as big as God's just gives and gives and gives.⁶

¹G5342, Thayer's, H5341, BDB, (e-sword.net) ²Jn 16:33
³G1515, Thayer's, ⁴H7965, BDB ⁵Ps 91:16 ⁶Ro 5:8

"The God of peace sent the Prince of Peace to bring the gospel of peace to declare peace on earth."