

Perfect Peace in Prayer

February 20, 2014

Philippians 4:4-9 ESV

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

- “REJOICE” - *to delight in, to find joy in, to lean towards, to be conscious of, to experience, calmly happy, well-off.*
- See Father as your all inclusive Source for every need and every desire.
- See Father as your Source for your provision, protection, security, peace, joy, wisdom, strength, guidance.
- “*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.*” Psalm 23:1

5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;

- “REASONABLENESS” - *gentle, mild, forbearing, fair, reasonable*
- When our trust is not in God, but we are focused on circumstances, other people, relationships, our own ability or wisdom, natural provision, we will not be reasonable but instead irritable, jealous, covetous, territorial, fearful, paranoid because there is no certainty, no assurance, no confidence in any other source but God. True certainty, reassurance and security comes from God and God alone.
- When your trust and rejoicing is not in God, then we become easily offended and unreasonable in our actions and reactions.
- Reasonableness comes from being at peace in God, and He never changes, He is never shaken, therefore we are not shaken by circumstances, problems or other people.
- Ps 119:165 “Great peace have they which love thy law: And nothing shall offend them.”

6 do not be anxious (*care, distracted, drawn in opposite directions, go to pieces, pulled apart*) about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

- Possessing the peace of God is not optional, it’s not a “nice-to-have.” Without God’s peace anxiousness will cause us to act and react in sinful, arrogant, fearful, selfish, aggressive ways.
- Recognize anxiousness as one of the greatest enemies of your soul!
- Possessing God’s peace is mission critical in the life of a believer.
- Anxiousness leaves and peace comes as we surrender all things to God in prayer.
- Thanksgiving exercises our mind and heart to identify what we have to be thankful for.

7 And the peace (*wholeness, undisturbed*) of God, which surpasses (*beyond, above, excel, be superior*) all understanding (*to think, reason, mental capacity*), will guard (*to guard like a military sentinel*) your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think (*compute, reason to a logical conclusion*) about these things.

- Our mind and heart must be exercised, trained and renewed to think the Word of God only, as the Holy Spirit brings the illumination that only the Holy Spirit can bring.

9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.