
Words of Truth

To Be Spiritually Minded Is Life And Peace

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On too many occasions I have talked with members of the church whom have not obtained a peaceful state of life. That is a statement that shows that individual's life is not right with the Lord. We shall see that throughout this study.

Now, as I am writing, I am already playing in my mind the words of some people I have talked to. Just a couple of months ago an individual whom had been taught better wrote this to me: "The happiest I feel is when I feel nothing. I'm either depressed, angry, or emotionless." Can you believe those words came from a person professing to be a Christian? Christians do not feel that way. To be clear, I am not suggesting that life is not without carnal and spiritual woes (John 11:32-36 and Romans 9:1-3). However, even in times of remorse and sorrow, a Christian MUST have a peace that passes carnal understanding (Philippians 4:6-8). The lack of a spiritual mindset of peace shows something about a person's lacking relationship with the Lord (Isaiah 48:22 and Isaiah 57:21).

Instead of rejoicing in giving up everything for the Lord (Matthew 19:16-30 and Philippians 3:3-9), a supposed Christian said this: "I've already ruined so much of my life. I don't want take every good thing out of my life unless I know I have to". Can you believe a supposed Christian said that? A faithful child of God is not concerned about what they give up for the Lord (Luke 14:25-33). A faithful child of God does not get discouraged over what they give up for the Lord (Colossians 3:1-4). A faithful child of God realizes that nothing we suffer loss of here on earth is worthy of comparison for what we shall gain in eternity (Romans 8:18).

Erring Christians do not have peace in their lives. They are on the same level as non-Christians regarding this matter. Both are children of Satan (I John 3:8-10). There is not real peace in that! But wait, the carnally minded person has no idea what real peace is. The carnally minded person thinks that real peace comes through health, wealth, success, entertainment, family, etc. This is why this article, to a carnally minded person, will not make any sense (I Corinthians 2:14 and I Corinthians 3:18-19). Real peace comes through walking away from the world and that way of thinking and walking into Christ and His way of thinking.

Peace Through Christ-Like Thinking

Where did Jesus live (Luke 9:58)? Did Jesus allow earthly family relations to stand in His way (Matthew 12:46-50)? How many "close friends" did Jesus have (John 6:60-71)? I think you could continue reasoning that point out further on your own. Now to a question, how did Jesus have peace without having the earthly pleasures most seek? The answer is simple. Jesus was not here for His own pleasure (John 6:38). Jesus had a mindset of finishing the will of His Father (John 4:34). Why do we exist (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 and Revelation 4:11)? Who is our example to follow in practice (I Peter 2:21) and thought (I Peter 4:1-5)?

Jesus never had carnal peace. Carnal peace is not really obtainable. This world was and always will be a troubled place (John 16:33). Christ-like living and thinking will bring peace. The Scriptures say such. Notice: *“For to be carnally minded is death; **but to be spiritually minded is life and peace**”* (Romans 8:6). Now again, this is not worldly peace that a Christian will have (John 14:27). That is NOT obtainable. The peace that comes through Christ is not only obtainable, but is expected to be in our lives as Christians.

Lacking Peace Equals Unfaithfulness

Notice this instruction: *“And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful”* (Colossians 3:14-15). If you embrace spiritual turmoil, are you following the instruction you just read?

Rather than leave the world behind, as we all must (I John 2:15-17), some would press on to try and find a way to get peace from the world. The Scriptures teach us this: *“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God”* (Romans 5:1-2). Can we ignore the instructions of the Lord and be pleasing to Him at the same time (Luke 6:46)? When the Lord instructs us to seek peace in Him and through Him are we living faithfully by looking elsewhere?

As easy as this should be, for some weak saints spiritual peace becomes elusive. While conversion should have brought about a new way of thinking (Ephesians 4:23), some struggle with going back to carnal thinking (I Corinthians 3:1-3). So, how does one overcome lacking peace. Here is a simple answer for you: *“For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens”* (II Corinthians 4:16-5:1).

In the Scriptures quoted above you should have realized that focusing on eternal life is the key to finding spiritual peace. All things in this life can be taken from us. Eternal life is the one thing that is in your control. God will not allow anyone or anything take you out of His hands (John 10:27-29). Whether or not you spend eternity in Heaven is entirely in your control (Hebrews 3:14). That focus brings real peace.

Conclusion

As Christians, we have it REALLY EASY. We can enjoy this life (I Timothy 6:17) so far as we can while obeying the Lord (Romans 12:1-2). Then, at the end of it all, we receive the salvation of our souls (I Peter 1:3-9). While we shall be troubled carnally from many directions (II Corinthians 4:8), the expectation of what is to come should keep us from being troubled at heart (John 14:1-3). Looking in the right place for the right information will help you have that peace. Consider this: *“My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee”* (Proverbs 3:1-2).