

## Our Toolbox During Times Of Adversity

### I. Introduction:

A. This week we have seen spiritual death, near physical death, ungodly departures, the faithful afflicted, sleepless night, etc. All of that is a lot to bear and so we should expect of life in this world (**Psalms 90:10**).

B. We need to understand that our Lord “gets it” regarding what we face in this life we live on earth (**Isaiah 53:3**, and **Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:5-9**).

1. He knows the disappointment of loved ones falling away and the wish that you could have prevented it (**Matthew 23:37** and **Luke 19:41-44**).

2. He knows the sorrows pertaining to losses in the flesh (**John 11:1-3; 14:28-36**).

### II. Body: Peace Is Available, At All Times, If You'll Let It Be (**Colossians 3:15**).

A. God has supplied us with the right words of peace (**II Peter 1:1-4**).

1. Even when we must take difficult actions (**II Thessalonians 3:6-16**).

2. All we have to do is think on and follow the right ways to have that peace (**Psalms 119:165, Proverbs 3:1-8**, and **Philippians 4:6-9**).

3. Each of us need to live aright so that, if we become gravely ill and pass, the words of comfort will be easy to find (**I Thessalonians 4:13-18**).

B. God has supplied us with a support system on earth (**Proverbs 17:17, Colossians 4:7-12**, and **I Thessalonians 5:11**).

1. The faithful will “have your back” (**I Samuel 18:1-4, I Samuel 19:1-6, II Samuel 1:25-26, Acts 9:23-25**, and **Romans 16:1-4**).

2. The faithful will follow the unselfish example of Jesus (**John 13:34-35; 15:12-13**, and **I John 4:7-11**).

C. God has supplied us with an everlasting place of peace to press towards (**John 14:1-3**).

1. We need to live not only as though we could die at any moment, but that Jesus could return and we get out of this miserable world to a place, if faithful, much better (**Matthew 24:35-25:46**).

2. Focus on “eternal life” (**I John 2:24-25**).

3. My brother in Christ, my son in the flesh, when deserted by his wife this week said: “I am going to just focus on things above” - HOW TRUE (**Colossians 3:1-4**)!

### III. Conclusion: When Jesus Was Leaving This World He Was Of Good Cheer (**John 16:29-33**). Like Jesus, We Will Win This Fight If We Remain Faithful (**I John 5:4**).