IS THE GOD OF PEACE WITH YOU? PHIL. 4:8-9

Introduction:

- A. Paul has written to these people about the "peace of God," that surpasses understanding.
 - 1. It is not a gift from God, it is earned!
 - 2. Paul enumerates the necessities.
 - a. v4-6, (this is only the beginning).
- B. As Paul continues his letter he writes of the presence of the "God of Peace."
 - 1. We know that God is always present.
 - We may not feel His presence unless we are "walking together in agreement."
 - 3. He may be, "God of punishment," "God, a consuming fire."
- I. IN CONCLUSION, THINK ON THESE THINGS. V8
 "EIGHT THINGS TO THINK ABOUT."
 - A. "Finally, brethren, think on these things."
 - "whatsoever things are true."
 - a. true = unconcealed, open, manifest, reality, things as they really are.
 - b. Do not give your mind to day-dreaming.
 - 2. "whatsoever things are honest."
 - a. honest = grave, dignified.
 - b. "whatever is worthy of reverence."
 - 3. "whatsoever things are just."
 - a. just = a right state, so that no fault or defect can be changed."
 - b. Think of the things without flaw, do not pick out flaws to think about!

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- 4. "whatsoever things are pure."
 - a. pure = chaste, clean, pure from defilement.
 - b. Don't dwell on the impure things of life.
- "whatsoever things are lovely."
 - a. lovely = dear to anyone. Endearment.
 - b. Think on things that are important to people.
- ó. "whatsoever things are of good report."
 - a. report = well-spoken.
 - b. Things that sound good, good import, wholesome.
- 7. "if there be any virtue."
 - a. virtue = superiority in every respect.
 - b. Whatsoever is above the normal.
- 8. "if there be any praise."
 - a. praise = discourse, narration.
 - b. [] applause, commendation.
 - c. "If there are things to be honored."
- "think on these things."
 - a. think = to reason, use the reason, to conclude, draw conclusions.
- II. IN CONCLUSION, DO THESE THINGS. V9
 - A. "Do those things ye have learned."
 - learned = to learn intellectually from others.
 - 2. Why should we learn God's will? To do it!
 - B. "Do those things ye have received."
 - received = to take near or to one's self, to receive what is delivered over.
 - To appropriate an action, activity, and to use it in your life.

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- C. "those things which ye have heard."
 - heard = to learn by hearing.
 - Hearing is a scriptural way of learning.
- D. "those things ye see in me."
 - see = not the mere act of seeing, but the actual perception of the object.
 - 2. The things you perceive, the "why" of my life.

′ E. "do"

- "Put these things into practice."
- 2. This is an imperative.

III. "AND THE GOD OF PEACE SHALL BE WITH YOU.

- A. We know God is ever present, but He is not always there as the "God of peace."
 - 1. Sometimes He is the chastising God.
 - 2. Sometimes He is the avenging God.
- B. Is the God of peace with you?
 - 1. Is He near to Bless and Honor?
 - 2. Is He near to Warn, and to Chastise?
 - Father would come near to touch in love or to correct.