

PEACE OF GOD

PHIL. 4:4-7

Introduction:

- A. It is unnatural for a man to seek war.
  - 1. We may be forced into defensive warfare, but no man should rejoice in war.
  - 2. It should never be viewed as man's most glorious moment.
  
- B. Peace should be sought in every area of man's life and existence.
  - 1. Peace with our fellow man.
  - 2. Peace with our God.
  - 3. Peace with self.
  
- C. The peace that Paul writes of here is an inner peace, predicated upon our trust in Jesus Christ.
  - 1. There can be no peace with God without Christ for, "He is our peace."
  - 2. There can be no peace with self without Jesus Christ, for there are too many unknowns in life..
    - a. Many unknowns and uncontrollable situations.

I. WE MUST REALIZE THAT THESE ARE REDEEMED PERSONS.

- A. "whose names are in the book of life."
  - 1. This is a cause for rejoicing.
  - 2. Jesus and the disciples. Luke 10:20.
  
- b. They are baptized people.
  - 1. No doubt about this.

II. FURTHER STEPS TO THE PEACE OF GOD.

- A. "rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, rejoice"
  - 1. Much more than saying, "Praise the Lord."
  - 2. Vocal praises are easy.

- B. This means a joyful repose in the work of Jesus.
  - 1. Rejoice in the power of His blood!
  - 2. Rejoice in the power of His priesthood!
  
- C. "Let your moderation be known unto all men."
  - 1. moderation = consideration = not insisting upon just rights.
  - 2. Don't act a fool, even if you have a right!
  
- D. "The Lord is at hand." Two ways to interpret this:
  - 1. The Lord is as close as your hand!
  - 2. The Lord's coming is near!
  
- E. "Be careful for nothing."
  - 1. careful = to have distracting care.
  - 2. How can this anxiety be avoided?
    - a. "but in everything by prayer" = [private prayer]
    - b. "in everything by supplication" = want or need.
    - c. "with thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God." request = thing asked for.
  - 3. Further evidence. Matt. 6:24-25.
    - a. If mammon is your Master, worry! v19.
    - b. If God is your Master, don't worry! v20.

### III. THE PEACE OF GOD. V7

- A. Incomprehensible peace, "which passeth all understanding."
  
- B. Keep your hearts.
  
- C. Keep your minds = "the product of the mind."
  
- D. "through Christ Jesus."