

God of All Comfort

Part 2

4-6-20

God Comforts us with Perfect Peace

Have you ever noticed how we often we let our emotions interfere with recognizing God's purpose and intentions for us?

There is help with that from the Word.

Isaiah 26:3

"You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is focused on You, because he trusts in You".

Something that I have shared before is the gaze and glance concept. That we should gaze to the Lord for direction and relationship with Him, day in and day out, and glance at our circumstance, whether we are in easy times or tough times.

When I take the verse I just quoted above, Isaiah 26:3, and make it more personal, it sounds like this:
"You will keep me in perfect peace, when my mind is focused on You, because that shows I trust in You".

We live in a world where we are taught that we are entitled to peace... just because....

You just go out there and find that peace. If you just believe in human harmony you will find peace. We all want it, just go make it happen!! Let's just get away from it all and we can find peace. Fishing, hiking, running, walking, TV, movies, video games, music...anything I can do to just get my mind off of what is going on...all the stresses and trials in life...then I can have peace!!! Just a little peace and quiet is all I want!!

I'm not here to tell you that those things are bad...but if that is what you rely on to have peace in your life...then you are missing out on the Perfect Peace from God. I don't know about you, but I don't want just a little peace and quiet.... I want the Perfect Peace that comes from keeping my mind focused on God. It reminds me that I can always trust my Heavenly Father. Isaiah 26:4 goes on to say, ***"Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord is everlasting strength"***. God will keep us in perfect peace when our mind is focused on Him and we trust in Him...for when we trust in Him then we are blessed with His everlasting strength. That's the kind of peace I want...how about YOU?

Are we truly seeking the perfect peace of God? Or do we expect it just because....?

How can we find His Perfect Peace?

Philippians 4:4-7

"Rejoice in the Lord always!! Again, I say rejoice!! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus".

- Do you want that perfect peace?

Then pray to God with thanksgiving and rejoice in the Lord and He will guard your hearts and minds with His perfect peace through His Son, Christ Jesus!!

- God comforts us with love

In Luke 15:4-7, Jesus tells us how the shepherd will leave his 99 sheep in safety to look for the one that is lost. He then rejoices when he finds the lost sheep.

God pursues us when we are lost and hurting and rejoices when we are found.

So why is it that we often turn away from the comfort God offers us through His Love?

Luke 15:11-24

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'"²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

You see it is because of God's love for us, that we can have comfort and perfect peace from Him. Just like the father welcomed home his wayward son, God's arms are open for us...to welcome us home...He runs to us....His arms are there to provide the comfort that only He can give...He wants us to focus on Him and grab hold of the perfect peace He has to offer. Our God has His arms open wide **because He loves us.**

Blessings,
Pastor Greg