

Solid Rock Christian Church Manassas, Virginia

Bible Study

For

September 17, 2020

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Title: "Peace That Passes All Understanding"

Scripture Reference: Philippians 4:7

"And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

I. Introduction

A. Are you now or do you get tired of letting the devil get you all stirred up? Has it been easy for the enemy to cause you to experience panic and anxiety?

B. Perhaps it doesn't happen continuously to you, but every once in a while, something happens that pushes a button inside you and things around you seem so confusing?

C. When this happens, do you say and do things that you later regret? Do you feel sorry that you allowed the devil to get to you, again?

D. If what I just described sounds familiar, this study session, taken from Philippians 4:7 should be very helpful to you.

E. My prayer is that you will be strengthened and encouraged as we study this lesson together, and that you will come to know on a very personal and intimate level, God's peace that passes all understanding.

II. Exposition [Part I]

A. Let's first take a look at the word "**passeth**" in our target verse (Phil. 4:7). It is the Greek word *huperecho*, which is a compound of the words *huper* and *echo*.

B. The word *huper* literally means over, above, and beyond. It depicts something that is *way beyond measure*. It carries the idea of *superiority*; something that is *utmost, paramount, foremost, first-rate, first-class; more than a match; greater, higher, or unequalled*. ((I think you get the picture.))

C. The second part of the word "passeth" is the Greek word *echo*, which means *I have*, as someone who *holds something* in their possession. It can be translated, *to keep, to possess; to have, to hold, or even to acquire*.

D. When these words are compounded into one, they form the word *huperecho*, which Paul uses in Philippians 4:7.

E. This Greek word denotes a peace *so superior that it is held high above all other types of peace. This is a peace that transcends, outdoes, surpasses, excels, rises above, goes beyond and over the top of any other kind of peace.*

F. The implication is that people may try to find peace in other places, but there is no peace like the peace of God!

Comment: There is absolutely nothing in the world that can compare with the peace of God.

III. Exposition [Part II]

A. Paul continues by telling us that this peace surpasses and excels above "all understanding." The word "understanding" is the Greek word nous, the classical Greek word for the mind.

B. This word refers to the ability *to think, to reason, to understand, and to comprehend*. In Greek, the word "mind" represents the inner powers of a person and the place from which a person rules and controls his environment. In other words, the mind is the Control Center for a human being.

C. Therefore, it was understood that the condition of the mind is what determined the condition of one's life.

D. Paul goes on to tell us what this powerful peace will produce in our lives. He says that this peace "... **shall keep your hearts and minds ...**"

E. The word "**keep**" is the Greek word **phroureo**; that expresses the idea of soldiers who stood at their post at the city gates to **guard and control** all who went **in** and **out** of the city. They served as **gate monitors**, and no one entered or exited the city without their approval.

F. The Apostle Paul uses this word **phroureo** to explicitly tell us that God's peace, if allowed to work in our lives, will stand at the gates of our hearts and minds, **acting like a guard to control and monitor everything that tries to enter our hearts, minds, and emotions.**

Comment: When God's peace is ruling us, **nothing** can get past that divine "guard" and slip into our hearts and minds without its approval.

G. This is the good news you have been waiting for. It means that you can refuse to allow the devil to access you, throw you into a state of panic and anxiety, or push any button inside you any longer.

Point: When the peace of God is standing guard at the entrance of your heart and mind, the devil has lost his access to your thought life and your emotions!

Putting these Greek words together,
Philippians 4:7 may be understood as follows:

"And the peace of God - a peace so wonderful that it cannot be compared to any other type of peace; a peace that stands in a category by itself and rises far above and goes beyond anything the human mind could even think, reason, imagine, or produce by itself - will stand at the entrance of your heart and mind, working like a guard to control, monitor, and screen everything that tries to access your mind, heart, and emotions."

IV. Exposition [Part III]

- A. God's peace will surround your heart and mind just as a band of Roman soldiers would keep dangerous nuisances from entering a city or from breaking into special, private places.
- B. In the same way, peace keeps fretfulness, anxiety, worry, and all the other wiles (i.e., schemes) of the devil from breaking into your life.
- C. When God's peace operates in you, it dominates your mind and your life. Since what is inside of you is that which rules you, peace rises up and conquers your entire life.

Comment: Right here I want to remind every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ of who resides and lives inside of us; the precious Holy Spirit!

Point: The devil may try his best to find access to your mind and emotions, but God's guarding peace will paralyze his efforts.

V. Summary

A. Make sure Philippians 4:7 is a reality in your life. In every situation that you face and each day that the Lord gives you, let God's supernatural peace rise up to dominate your heart and protect your mind and emotions.

B. Did this study cause you to reflect deeply and examine yourself?

C. There will be a few Questions for you to consider at the end of this study. I want to encourage you to draw closer and closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, He will give you God's abiding Peace.

It's **Interactive Time**. Please complete the following Scripture passages by filling in the blank spaces. All passages have been taken from the KJV of the Bible. If you are using a different version, please write out each passage; I'm sure you will be blessed.

"And let the _____ of God _____ in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye _____.

(Colossians 3:15)

"Let this _____ be in you which was also in _____."

(Philippians 2:5)

"Ye are of God, little children, and have _____ this: because _____ is he that is in _____, than he that is in the _____." **(1 John 4:4)**

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are of _____; if there be any _____, and if there be any _____, think on these things." **(Philippians 4:8)**

Questions For You To Consider

1. Have you noticed specific events or moments in our life when the devil seems to be able to access your mind and emotions to upset your peace and throw you into one of those regrettable fits that were pointed on in this study?
 - a. If your answer is yes, do you know the "buttons" he pushes to throw you into this state that you detest?
2. What can you do to slow your reactions down long enough to let the Peace of God rise up and conquer your emotions so that you don't end up saying and doing things you later regret?
3. What are some passages of Scripture, coupled with prayer, might you hide in your heart, and pull upon them in those "push-button" moments, so that you may be able to continue to enjoy God's peace in your life?

I pray that this study session has been a blessing to you. Please feel free to share this material, and visit our website at:

www.solidrock-cc.org and listen to sermons and Teachable Moments for encouragement.

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Pastor Austin