

GOD'S GIVE YOU PEACE

1 Peter 1:2 "May grace and peace be multiplied unto you."

Life is frequently anything but peaceful. This has been true especially over the past number of months. Perhaps the civil unrest has created tensions between you and those with whom you must associate. Of course, the Covid19 virus has most likely had you on edge and has filled you with anxiety and fear.

You, like most, also need spiritual peace. You want to know that your relationship with God is good. Yet, you know your spiritual weaknesses. You struggle with committing habitual sins. You look in the mirror of God's law and see it reflect back to you your disobedience, rejection of His will, and a life of repeated sinning. You ask, "is it possible for me to have peace with God?"

Jesus met a woman at Jacob's well. She was on her daily water run. He engaged her in a conversation that led her to see her life time of sins, confess them and receive forgiveness. Jesus told her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:13-14)

"Those who have guilty secrets rarely enjoy true peace of mind." (Oxford English Dictionary) God, out of His underserved love for sinners, sent Jesus His Son to personally deal with your "guilty secrets." His suffering and death on Calvary's cross were His full and complete payment for your "guilty secrets" and all the sins you commit.

Without God's grace you cannot have peace. Grace is one hundred percent from God to you by the power of His Spirit. Peter ends his greeting to you and all Christians in 1 Peter 1:2 praying God will fill you and your life with His grace. And, God does this through your baptism, when you receive Holy Communion and receive the Holy Gospel. Through these means God in His love, through His Son Jesus, says your sins are washed away, your sins are removed, your sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Through your faith in Jesus, you receive peace. Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (John 14:27)

Prayer: Dear Father in heaven, thank you for in Your grace sending Jesus to shed His blood for me through which You give me peace of conscience, heart and soul. In Jesus' name. Amen.

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot
Thou has taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
Refrain: It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control, That Christ hast regarded
My helpless estate And hath shed His own blood for my soul. (Refrain)

He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross,
and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (Refrain)

And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trumpet shall sound
And the Lord shall descend; Even so it is well with my soul. (Refrain)
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