## FREE FROM WORRY AND FEAR

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God has fully intended for us to be kept in perfect peace all the time; never to be upset or burdened down with worry or trouble no matter what may happen. God has made a provision for us to be delivered and protected from trouble of every kind. The Bible reveals the reason why we don't have to be upset or worried about anything.

When we are troubled or upset about something that happens or may be said or done to us, it gives Satan the opportunity to work and to take away our peace. He not only makes up the troubles but also uses them to get us irritated and upset and when he does, he can get in and rob us of our great inheritance that God has so freely given to us through the Blood of Jesus Christ.

When we have learned that we don't have to be upset or burdened about anything at all, it will enable God to work. God works for us not only to keep us in perfect peace but to make everything that would normally upset us, to be peaceful and to be as we would want it to be. This is what everyone is searching for and will not find until they go to God through Jesus' shed Blood and claim what has been provided for them on the Cross.

Before man fell, he enjoyed perfect peace and rest, he didn't know what it was like to be worried or upset about anything, and he was perfectly protected. But when man fell, he became subject to sin and rebelled against God and tried to start out on a career of his own. From that moment, worry, fear, and trouble of every kind came upon this earth.

But God, out of His great love and mercy, has made a great provision for us, through the work of His Son on Calvary's Cross. Everything that man lost through Adam's sin of rebellion, Jesus restored for us. We have our deliverance from all worry, fear, and anxieties of this life. Isaiah 53:5, "The chastisement of our peace was upon him." That includes everything that anyone could need or desire or anything that could upset us and cause us worry, fear, or anxiety. It has all been borne on the Cross for us, and Satan himself, who causes all worry, fear, and unbelief, was conquered there and has become a paralyzed, conquered foe.

Hebrews 2:14, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;"

We need to stop and realize that Satan really is a paralyzed foe and has no right, whatsoever to make any trouble at all for any of us. All our troubles and cares of this life, and anything that anyone could say or do to make us unhappy, have all been nailed to the Cross.

We need to remember that we were created in the beginning to always have perfect peace, happiness, and rest. All that was temporarily lost through Adam's sin until Jesus came and restored it all for us. Romans 5:17, "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ."

The blessings we lost through Adam have all been restored by Jesus Christ. We have that Blood-bought right to be restful, and peaceful, free from all burden, care, and anxiety. When we get worried and upset about things, that gives Satan the privilege to keep us upset. If we do not allow Satan to get us worried or upset, God will remove the cause of the trouble and give us perfect victory.

When we get the victory over the worry, it puts Satan back where he belongs, a defeated, conquered, paralyzed foe. When we rest, God can work; when we are anxious and upset, Satan works. In Isaiah 30:15 God says, "In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength."

Then we have Psalm 46:1-3, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

This Psalm was written after Jehoshaphat's great victory, and he sums it up in verse ten, by saying, "Be still, and know that I am God." He learned to rest in perfect peace even when three fierce nations were coming against him.

To know that I am God, means to have a personal relationship with the true character of God, what He is, and how loving and kind, and how willing and anxious He is to make our lives perfectly ideal, here and for Eternity. How He wants us to enjoy all the power and blessings, all the love and resources that He is delighted to give to us and enter into the full enjoyment of all God's power, ability, and riches. That is the great value of God's quietness and rest that has been provided on Calvary's Cross. Therefore, we do not have to be worried or upset about anything.

Even the things that Satan tries to do, are not things for us to worry about. They are things that Satan is trying to use to scare us into something. His black and foreboding thoughts are just frame-ups, a little wedge that he is trying to use to get in and oppress us. If we start to worry and become upset, we have allowed Satan to come in and disturb us.

Those in the world, who are not following God's will, when troubles come upon them, will become worried and upset because they have no real protection from God; their lives are practically in danger all the time because it says in Romans 8:6, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Danger is always overshadowing them and ready to destroy them. They may not see or know there is danger, but anyone not in the will of God, danger hovers over them all the time.

When we are in the will of God, it is just the opposite, there is not one thing that can happen that we should worry about, no matter how gloomy it may seem on the surface. There is no harm that can touch a child of God, no more than if that thing did not exist at all. It is no more than just a frame-up of the devil to try to worry and place fear in our hearts.

The Blood of Jesus Christ has placed God Himself between us and every evil frame-up of the devil. God is not seen with our natural eyes, but He is there between us and everything Satan and his agents could say or do. There is not one thing that can harm us until it passes through God first, and there is nothing that men or devils ever devised that could ever pass through God. God is our impregnable armor that can never be penetrated.

Moses said it so emphatically in Psalm 91:1-3, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely, he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence."

We cannot ever afford to worry about anything that Satan or anyone else says or does to us. The snare of the fowler is the trap that Satan would try to get us into. We are not to be afraid of any so-called disease that the world claims is going around. They are just frame-ups or a trap from the devil to keep the world in constant fear. (Verses 6-8) "Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday, A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked."

Those things happen to people outside the will of God. We may see them fall on the right hand and on the left, but between us and Satan, and every evil thing, there is an impregnable fortress, or an armor plate through which no evil can pass.

God delivered His people in Bible times out of some of the most terrible and frightful places, humanly speaking. The Bible is full of such examples, yet His people were just as safe and protected as if the dangers that surrounded them did not exist.

Christians in Bible times were burdened down at first, they were greatly disturbed and upset, but they found that it was all wasted time. All worry and anxious thoughts were entirely unnecessary. They did not have to miss a wink of sleep; if they had only known it, they could have done as David said in Psalm 4:8, "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety."

We need to grasp the fact and meditate upon it, that the great God of Heaven and earth, with all power and authority, is at our side, and stands between us and every evil thing, and nothing can pierce that armor.

Once we realize this protection we have, and take advantage of it, it enables the presence and power of God to work for us and stops Satan from working. When we worry, Satan works; when we rest, God works.

It is of the utmost importance that we realize this because our entire salvation and preparation for Heaven and our victory, blessing, and happiness here and hereafter depends on whether we rest or worry.

We are given some of the strongest and clearest advice in Philippians 4:6-7 to "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." God has promised us in Hebrews 13:5, that He will never leave us nor forsake us, and will never let go our hand.

Before Jesus went away, He said in Matthew 28:20, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

We may not see God in person, yet He is present with us in the person of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, who is co-equal with God and Christ; He is the One who is always with us.

We do not see the air we breathe, yet it is present with us. We do not see the electricity we use, yet it does its work for us just the same. The power of God is just as present with us as the air we breathe, and His power and presence are there for our benefit and blessing. Everything this power can do, everything we need, every spiritual, physical, and financial victory, peace, and rest, is all there for us. That is the reason why we don't have any need to worry.

Many times, people in Bible times had reason to be upset, and many did get upset, but the very moment they placed their problems in God's hands and left it there finally and forever, God not only gave them their peace, but also delivered them out of their troubles.

How encouraging it is when we are delivered from all care and worry. We always want to keep before us, when we worry, Satan will work. When we cease to be worried, Satan's power is broken, and God's power takes its place and keeps us in perfect peace. Isaiah 26:3, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

If we are going to constantly look at our troubles and things that disturb us, we will not be kept in perfect peace. Our focus must be on what God has promised to us and all that has been purchased for us through that great work on the Cross. That is the only place where we can receive our freedom from all worry and fear.

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