

Peace Be With You

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to 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)

“Peace be with you!” This is the greeting of the Lord Jesus Christ to His disciples after His resurrection. Jesus died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. He was buried and on the third day He rose from the grave to give us eternal life. The Bible narrates that, *“On the evening on that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After He said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.” (John 20:19-20)*

After the death of the Lord Jesus, the disciples locked the doors behind them because they were afraid of those who persecuted the Lord. They were left alone and they were threatened because they were the followers of the Lord Jesus. Swords or other weapons would be suggested to them for protection, but the Lord Jesus is their Shield. Before the Master was handed over to His enemies He had promised them, *“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.”* What the disciples need at moments of trouble is not sword or weapon or bodyguard, but faith in the Lord Jesus who promised peace to overcome every anxiety and fear.

People have fear for many things and from varied reasons: Fear of the present event, fear of the unexpected incident, fear of death, fear of rejection, fear for the future and coming circumstances, fear for the enemies, fear from sickness, fear from failures, losing a job or losing partner, fear from economic instability and market crisis, fear from floods, earthquakes, wars and other calamities. These are actual causes of fear. But even not any of these has happened yet fear is already instilled in the mind of the people. And fear of any circumstance has always bad consequences.

Fear causes anxiety, lack of concentration, discouragement, unbelief, disruption and distraction to certain program or task. Fear results to take wrong decision and deviation from the right plan. All these and many other consequences of fear are more dangerous and more crippling than the mishap itself. In most occasions nothing worse has happened; however fear has done its worst effect.

How do we overcome the bad effects of fear? The answer is to have real peace and that peace is what the Lord Jesus had spoken to His disciples:

1. **Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you:** Jesus is the Prince of Peace. We receive peace by accepting Jesus as our personal Savior and obeying His commands being our personal Lord. Satan comes to rob, steal kill and destroy. Satan attacks the person’s mind and heart by telling lies and giving wrong information that cause great disturbance to the man’s life and plan. Satan finds access to the person who is doubting or unbelieving in Jesus. Satan who speaks lies creates doubts and unbelief. He puts fear in the heart and confusion in the

mind, and keeps a person from knowing the truth that would give him peace – knowing Jesus Christ. Likewise, a believer in Jesus who gives a foothold to Satan by doing sin opens a door for Satan to enter his life and robs away the peace that Jesus gave. As a result, the believer loses the peace from God and entertains a disturbed mind and troubled heart.

2. **I do not give to you as the world gives:** The Lord is the God of peace; he is the only One who can give us the real peace. Many people claim that they can give us peace, but we should not be deceived. No peace can be received from any other name but from the One who promised, *“My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.”* Yet there are people who come to Jesus because they want to receive material blessing so they could have peace. Our God could bless us even more than what we ask because He is God, the Creator and Great Provider. But if we put our trust to created things not to the Creator we miss the real peace from God. We may have all the material things in this world but we find no satisfaction and no peace. It is only the Lord Jesus who can put in our heart His peace that gives us joy, satisfaction, contentment and assurance. The word of God says, *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7)*

3. **Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid:** Jesus is the answer to all our troubles and longings. Jesus is the solution to our problems. Jesus is the All in all for, *“All things have been created through him and for him. (Colossians 1:16b)* Jesus said, *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. (John 14:1-3)* To know that we have a place in heaven, this gives us the peace and enables us to overcome troubles. This causes us to live with contentment, filled with joy and peace because we live with Him who says, *“Peace be with you!”* Peace is what we need to live a meaningful and eternal life. Is there anything else we need to live a meaningful and eternal life? Is there anything else we need if we have Him who promised us, *“Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you”?*

My Dear and Beloved: Do not be deceived by any lies in this world. Jesus is the Lord and God who said, *“Peace be with you!”* Come to Jesus in prayer.

My Prayer: *“I praise You, Father God. I thank You for your Son Jesus Christ who died for me on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins, and who rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord Jesus, I thank You for the peace that I receive from You. I pray that You uphold my hands and lead me in the path of victory all the days of my life and till you take me with You in heaven. Thank You, Lord. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen.”*