

# **The Peace of God Ruling in Your Hearts**

Col. 3:15

## **Introduction:**

- A. We are to let peace of God (peace that comes from God) rule in:
  - 1. The heart - bringing inner peace.
  - 2. The (body) church - bringing unity.
- B. We will study the peace of God in two lessons:
  - 1. This time 1st half of text: The Peace of God Ruling Your Hearts - Inner peace.
  - 2. Next time 2nd half of text: The Peace Of God Ruling In The Body of Christ - Unity.
- C. We are sometimes robbed of happiness by inward conflicts. (Cf. Rom. 7:13-25).
- D. We need to learn some lessons about happiness (or inner peace).

## **Discussion:**

### ***I. Inner Peace Does Not Prove That We Are Right With God.***

- A. May confuse peace of mind with peace of God.
  - 1. Think saved because they are happy.
  - 2. Must be happy because they are saved.
- B. May find peace in sin. (Heb. 11:25).
- C. May find peace in false religions and cults.
  - 1. Because really believe it to be right. (cf. Acts 23:1; 26:9).
  - 2. Because they are totally committed to it.

### ***II. Inner Peace Must Be Coupled With Godliness.***

- A. The peace OF GOD, not just peace. (cf. John 14:27).
- B. Godliness with contentment. (1 Tim. 6:6).
- C. Conditional peace. (Phil. 4:4-7).
  - 1. Rejoice *in the Lord*. (v.4).
  - 2. Gentleness. (v. 5).
  - 3. Anxious for nothing. (v. 6).
  - 4. Prayer. (v. 6, cf. 1 Pet. 5:7).

### ***III. Inner Peace Does Not Mean Perpetual Ecstasy.***

- A. There are “unhappy” times.
  - 1. Christ. (Luke 19:41; John 11:35).
  - 2. Paul. (Phil. 2:27,28).
  - 3. All of us, but they do not rule a Christian's life.
- B. There are serious times. (Phil. 4:8 *Semnos* = honest, noble, grave)
- C. There are “ecstatic” and light-hearted times, real happiness is deeper.

### ***IV. Inner Peace Must Be In Spite of Some Things. (cf. 2 Cor. 4:8-18).***

- A. Mistreatment. (Matt. 5:10-12; Phil. 1:12-18; Acts 5:41).
- B. Common woes of this world: Death, pain, sin, etc.

### ***V. Inner Peace Must Be Because Of Some things.***

- A. Because we have reason to rejoice.
  - 1. If we are saved. (cf. Acts 8:39).
  - 2. If we have hope. (Rom. 12:12; 1 Pet. 3:15).
  - 3. If we are spiritually blessed. (Eph. 1:3).
- B. Because we have learned obedience in all things. (cf. Matt. 28:18-20).
  - 1. Learn to “Rejoice” (Phil. 4:4).
  - 2. Learn to “Be content” (Phil. 4:11).

3. Learn to put away happiness robbers. (Eph. 4:31).

Conclusion:

- A. Christians do not need to be unhappy.
  1. If medical problem, then get medical help.
  2. If spiritual problem, then get spiritual help.
- B. “Let the peace of God rule in your hearts”.