

APOSTOLIC ADVICE
SEPTEMBER 2009
"APOSTOLIC PEACE"

According to the Word of God "peace" will be elusive to most people in this troubled world. Jesus promised "peace" to his followers saying, *"My peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid"*.

Apostle Paul provided a marvelous outline to the Christians at Philippi that is still working for us today as we apply the apostolic wisdom to our lives for "peace that passes all understanding". It is totally supernatural to have peace when there is no "earthly" reason for it as implied in the following passage from Philippians 4:6-8.

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds thru Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue, and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things. The things which you have learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of Peace will be with you".

This passage reveals a three step process to obtain a supernatural peace during any situation that we may encounter in today's world of turmoil and confusion.

1. CAST YOUR CARES. Vs.6

Casting our cares involves a "once and for all" decision to make God responsible for the outcome of the situation. Satan seeks to "devour us with care", the word "care" meaning anxious thoughts. Peter offers the same advice telling us to *"cast our cares upon Him who cares for us affectionately (Amp)"*. The enemy will come at us with all manner of anxious thoughts in an attempt to devour our peace and trust in the Lord. Jesus told us to "take no anxious thought by saying....what will we eat or what will we wear, for the Father knows we have need of these things". "A thought that remains unspoken dies unborn".

2. CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS. Vs. 8

Controlling our thoughts is the subject of this verse, telling us to be selective about the thoughts that we allow to remain in our minds. Thoughts turn to images, which become strongholds in our thinking that are difficult to change. Paul told us there was warfare for control of our thought life, *"Casting down imaginations..... Bringing every thought into captivity" (2 Cor.10:3-5)*. The only way to control our minds is with the "words we speak", if we speak the anointed Word of God, it will change what we are seeing in our minds until a new stronghold is formed based upon the perception of reality from God's viewpoint. It is called "Peace of Mind".

3. COPY OUR MENTORS. Vs.9

This final step in the process to obtaining supernatural peace is vital because we have a "model" of victory in this area that provides the hope that we can also obtain supernatural peace of mind and heart. *"Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the Word of*

God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct” (Hebs.13:7). Paul was saying that our spiritual leaders have learned how to trust God and appropriate His peace in all situations, and we can do the same by following their example. If we take Paul’s apostolic advice, we will surely live above the “cares of this world” and manifest a life of Peace because of the victory we have in Christ Jesus.

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