

Discovering Peace and Joy in the Kingdom
On the Real – Living in True Peace
Romans 14.17/John 14:27-28

February 28, 2010

27 "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

REVIEW:

1. Religious tradition can hinder joy and peace
 - Limiting what God can do and who He can do it with
 - The way you always did it is not always the way
2. Unforgiveness can block joy and peace.
 - Forgive yourself and walk away from the past
 - Unforgiveness stops your prayers and your growth. Mt.6.15/Ps.66.18
3. Inability to follow instruction can stop joy and peace!
 - Peter had to follow the directions the Lord gave him. Vs. 15

15 Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy."

- Peter had to follow the guides that had been sent to him. Vs 20

INTRO: Jesus words tell us one thing for sure. There are two different kinds of peace. And since peace and joy are inseparable there are two different types of joy as well.

1 Peter 1:8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy. NIV

The world offers a form of joy and peace that if one is not careful they might confuse this for what God offers through your citizenship in the kingdom. For every system there is a counterfeit system. For all currency there is counterfeit currency. And the currency of joy and peace is no different. There are counterfeit versions of joy and peace everywhere. When one is being trained to know the difference between counterfeit money and real money there is a common philosophy. You do not study the false you study the real!

Your expert understanding of the real thing will be your only defense against being duped by the false. So do not spend your time getting a master's degree in false peace, get a Ph.D. in the real thing!

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Real peace and joy will:

1. Have no basis in a person, place or thing!
2. Produce good things but not be dependent upon them
3. Last when all else fails.

1. Real peace and joy can only come from Christ!

“I give to you...”

- The gift He gives is an extension of who He is

When He gives peace and joy He is simply giving who He is!

- The gift of joy and peace originates from Him because He owns the sole rights to it

Giving someone joy and peace is an issue of control. The only Person who could give that must have control over everything!

“Peace be still” Mark 4.39

Jesus simply releases who and what He is. They were experiencing the peace of the world that vanished in the middle of the storm while He was sleeping/resting in the peace God gives. The kind of peace that is independent of everything else.

Student Sidebar: No one or no thing can give you peace or joy unless they can control all the factors of your life.

2. Real peace and joy does not need assistance from other things or people! Phil 4:7

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- The peace He gives has the power to stand
- The peace He gives has the power to stand alone
- The peace He gives has the power to stand alone and protect the heart that it dwells in

Eph 6:13,15

13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm

15 and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;

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3. Real peace and joy has staying power!

27 " Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

- His peace remains when you can't hold your peace!
- His joy will stay when you feel all your joy is gone.
- His peace and joy has His eternal nature!