

GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR PEACE
(Philippians 4:4-9)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

1. THE PRE-REQUISITE.

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

WE MUST HAVE PEACE WITH GOD BEFORE WE CAN HAVE THE PEACE OF GOD.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans 5:1

2. THE PROHIBITION.

“... do not be anxious about anything. (v. 6)

“Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on.” Matthew 6:25

A) Why is worry a sin?

- 1) Worry reveals a lack of trust in God's faithfulness and Sovereignty.**
- 2) Worry renders God's Word unfruitful in our life.**
- 3) Worry weighs down the heart.**
- 4) Worry takes our eyes off Jesus.**

B) Why is worry futile?

“And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life?” Matthew 6:27 (RSV)

- 1) Things we cannot control.**
- 2) Things we cannot change.**
- 3) Things that don't matter.**
- 4) Things we cannot understand.**

The entire Word of God is a constant exhortation to believers to stop worrying. It is everywhere forbidden to those who believe in Jesus Christ, and I think one of the most serious areas of unbelief is our failure as Christians to face the problem of worry as sin. Because that is what it is. Worry is not just something everyone does and therefore it must be all right. It is definitely labeled a sin in the Scriptures, and the exhortation is everywhere: **Stop it!** (Ray Stedman)

3. THE PROVISION.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27

4. THE PLAN.

- 1) Pray (v. 6)
- 2) Praise (v.4,6)
- 3) Presence (v. 5)

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save, he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.” Zephaniah 3:17

- 4) Ponder (v. 8)
- 5) Practice (v. 9)

Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

5. THE PROTECTION.

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

