

The Assurance of God's Presence

Peace should belong to the believer.

What is peace?

Peace is not

- Anxiety
- Fear
- Restlessness
- Clamor
- Conflict
- Noise

Peace is

- Stability in time of trouble
- Freedom from debilitating thoughts
- John 14:27

I am with God and God is with me

"I am with God and God is with me" is peace (by our definition) but it is also having God's presence

God's presence

- David rejoiced at the move of the ark to Jerusalem for it represented the presence of God.
- 1 Chronicles 13:1-4; 15:25-29; 16:27
- When He is with you...
 - Psalm 23
 - Psalms 91:1-6
 - Psalm 27:4-6

God with you sounds good but then you must remember God will not be mocked...Galatians 6:7

2 Chronicles 15:1-2

- God does not owe you His presence.
- Numbers 14:39-45 Israel went without God's presence
- Deuteronomy 7:9-10
 - Do not think that God owes you His goodness

What do we do about grace?

- Grace is mistakenly taken as though one can behave any way and be covered by grace.
- Colossians 1:21-23
- You must continue.
- You must respond to grace once you have received grace! And keep responding.
- Then God is with you.
- You are not saved by works BUT if grace doesn't impact your life something is wrong.

How do we assure ourselves that God is with us?

First qualification: born-again

Second qualification: a proper response

- Acts 10:34-35
- John 15:7,10
- Galatians 6:8

The response must be a repentant, faithful, obedient life in which you remain

You assure yourself through obedience

Daniel 9:4

John 14:15, 23-24

- Not in special revelation
- Not in a natural position
- You assure yourself through obedience

Therefore, the preaching of the word is critical.

What you have been taught needs to be applied (and remembered), even the simple things.

- Colossians 2:6-7. . . Walk in what you have been taught.
- Philippians 4:9

When you walk in the truth you make provision in your life for God

Romans 13:11-14

- You can make provision for the flesh
- Rather than provision for the flesh we must make provision for God
- There is difference between providing for the flesh and providing for God

Making provision for the flesh

- You organize your life in such a way that the flesh is always covered

Make provision for God

- God wants it all
- Making provision for God is called putting God first

Matthew 22:36-37

2 Chronicles 16:1-10

- In his comfort the king took "God with him" for granted.

You put God first when you:

- Organize your life to put God first
- It is the determined and purposed organization of your life for availability for God
- All so I may be available for the weak the poor the oppressed the hurting the hungry the church
- This is loving God above all and your neighbor as yourself

Matthew 25:31-40

This means organizing:

- My time
- My finances
- My relationships
- My life for the benefit of the church