

Surrender

The war rages on as the defeated fallen angel, the devil, tries to do as much damage as possible and keep as many people as He can away from faith in God. How is it working out for Satan? Well, looking around the world you would have to think that He is doing pretty well. But how is it going for you? There are two sides in this war, Christ and Satan. Satan has been defeated. So, when you are choosing Jesus, you are choosing the side of victory. So, whose side are you on today? To be on God's side, it is simple, you just surrender **all** of your life to Jesus. You say to God, I am not going to fight anymore. That is where we find ourselves when we are not surrendered to God. We find ourselves fighting against God. We want our will done rather than His. It is time and it is time to do it now, to surrender everything to Jesus.

Luke 9:23 - Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

You can raise the white flag right now and say, "that's it God." I don't want to fight you anymore. I surrender and I surrender all, right now. I want you to live your life in and through me. I want you to come into my heart and just take over from this day forward. And Lord, let your will be done in my life. When you surrender your life to God that is when you know real peace. This is where you find the peace of God. Surrender to Him right now and instead of **no** peace, you will **know** peace.

Before They Call Me

Because of sin, our world is hopelessly lost and in need of outside help. Where can we find help in our time of need. There is one Person who is able to save the inhabitants of planet Earth and His name is Jesus.

Isaiah 65:24 - "It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear.

If you really believe this verse, worry will disappear, and peace will enter your heart right now. We are so grateful to the Father, our Prince of Peace that even though we live in a world that is troubled by warfare, disputes and unrest, there is victory, there is triumph and there is peace. We consider what is going on in our own hearts. So many are troubled, some are discouraged, along with present trials and worry, but we know that God can move into every heart and bring within His people the peace of heaven.

Today, you can have that peace right now. Don't look for it around you but within you. God's peace is not like the peace the world gives, absence of trouble, but it is within. It will keep you when nothing else does. If you really believe that before you call on Him for your situation, then He will answer you. And if you also believe that while you are still speaking, He will hear you, then victory is yours right now. When you ask Jesus for His peace and make this your prayer today, I believe that while we have reached out to Him, He has already reached out to you.

The Clear Word

I don't know about you, but there can be instructions written for me to follow on many things, and for some reason, I just don't get it! Satan tempted Eve to doubt what God had said, to reject some of the plainest words written in the bible, God could have spoken. Was it hard to understand? Did they not get it? God had told Adam and Eve not to eat the fruit that grew on "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil". In choosing Satan's suggestions over God's **clear word**, Eve chose distrust of God, over faith in God.

Genesis 2:16, 17 - And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

The instructions in this scripture were very clear. So clear that we may want to look at how we view God's word in our own lives today. When God gives us clear instructions, that He will be with you, or trust me, or I will work this out for you, do we do as Adam and Eve did? Do we question or rethink what God has clearly said? He doesn't change His mind. What He has said is as solid and trustworthy as it can get.

God's instructions to us are very clear. All we have to do is trust His word over Satan's word. Doubt is from the Devil and Peace is from God. We don't have to add or take away from what He has clearly written. Today, you can have faith in God that He will do just what He said He will do in your life. Yes, the pain is intense what we go through, but victory is certain, when you trust Him. And when we read the instructions in the bible, we can know that they are crystal clear. And we can believe that what God has said will surely come to pass.

Separation from God

Sin separates us from God because God is the source of life. Eve's lack of faith in God, her disobedience caused a fracture in her relationship with God and separated her from the One who is the source of all life. Sin created a gulf between the human family and the God of heaven and caused humanity to pass from life to death. As a result of the sin of Adam and Eve, sin "spread to all."

Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

Sin leads to death. And every person on Earth is affected, because "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). The entire human family faces eternal death as a result of sin having entered the world. Whether the sin is murder, drunkenness, pride, lying, stealing, gossip or fraud, whatever the sin, the consequence is the same: death.

God has made a way of escape from the death penalty sin introduced to this world. Through Jesus, every person alive can receive the gift of eternal life! When you go to God, you want Him to hear your prayers. Checking to see if there is any separation is a very wise thing to do in your relationship with God. Answered prayer is something our Savior longs to do and sin can break or obstruct that from happening. Check for cracks in your relationship with God. Go to the source of all life and He will fix whatever is wrong in your life. And He will do it, right now.

Heaven

Try as we might, we can't even imagine how wonderful heaven will be! Take a moment to think about the most beautiful place you've ever seen. Heaven will be better! Your most enjoyable vacation? Heaven will be better! Think of the most memorable time you've ever had; heaven will be better than that! Although there's no harm in trying, we simply cannot imagine how truly wonderful heaven is going to be. But more important and sadder than all of that is, we live in a world where many will never get to see heaven.

Matthew 7:13 - "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Few will find the path of righteousness, and many will go down the wrong road. When reading this verse there should be an urgency in God's people to be on board with His plan and His will; to live a life that is victorious in Christ. Why? So that others may see Him and know Him through our actions. We can't make anyone want Christ, but we sure can live out the beauty, love, compassion and mercy that He has shown to us, in front of them. Yes, heaven will be truly amazing, and while we wait, we can live a life in front of others so they will have a chance to maybe see how amazing it will be too.

Not Permitted in Heaven

God's intentions, His great desire, is to dwell in the midst of His people for all eternity! Throughout eternity, there will be no sin in the New Earth! Revelation 22 lists the types of people who will not be permitted to dwell in the Holy City.

Revelation 22:15 – But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. We may say that I don't do any of these things but be careful of that because when you practice a lie, you are simply falling for the devil and the lies that He practice. In short, those who have not yielded to Jesus and have clung instead to their sin or the lies of the devil you will not be in the Earth made new. If you don't trust Him here, you won't trust Him there. Sinners would not be happy spending eternity in the presence of a holy God. Why? Because they do not follow the lamb (Jesus) wherever He goes.

Not only will we see God face to face, but His character, represented by His name, will be restored into the minds of His people! And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

Throughout eternity, there will be no sorrow, pain, or death. Today, you can rest assured that what you see here, you will not experience in heaven. And whatever you are holding on to down here you cannot take it with you to heaven. Hold on a little while longer, surrender all to Jesus our King because He will be coming soon. What a future God's people have to look forward to! Don't miss it and be ready when He returns so you can dwell in the Holy City made new.