

Practicing Peace 3rd Segment

Today, we will see that as we keep our thoughts on Jesus, He provides hope and peace.

Review...

Q: 1) What does it mean to be of the same mind in the Lord?

- It means to think the same thing (due to a common bond) in the Lord. Unity not uniformity.
- **Peaceful Practice**, Vs. 1-3.
The Prince of Peace living through us provides peace with others.
(Ga. 5:1, 13-16. Ep. 4:1-3; 6:10-18. Col. 3:12-17 4:12)
- Jesus provides the **peace**; by the Spirit we keep the **peace**.
(Ps. 133. Mar. 9:50. Ro. 12:16-18. 1 Co. 1:10. Ep. 2:14. 1 Th. 5:13)
- The community of believers (whose names are written in the book of Life) should work together toward maintaining **unity** and **peace**.
(Ex. 32:32. Ps. 69:28. Is. 4:3. Eze. 13:9. Da. 12:1. Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 4:15-16; Col. 2:18-19)

Q: 2) Are believers to rejoice in all circumstances?

- Believers are to rejoice in the Lord always. It just so happens, while rejoicing in the Lord, we enter one circumstance after another.
- Peaceful Poster (Vs. 4-7).
Rejoicing in Jesus provides a gentle and jubilant attitude of prayerful thanksgiving.
(Ps. 34:1, 2; 145:1. Mat. 5:12. Ac. 5:41. Ro. 5:2, 3. 1 Th. 5:16-18. 1 Pe. 4:13)

- Pre-Christian or otherwise worldly behavior should be forsaken; rather, we should be living as an example of Jesus, because Christ is in us.
(Lu. 6:29-35. 1 Co. 6:7; 7:29-31. Tit. 3:2. He. 13:5. 1 Pe. 1:11. Mat. 24:48-50. 1 Th. 5:2-4. He. 10:25)
- Instead of looking at the impossible circumstances before us, look to Almighty God, with confidence in prayer.
Mat. 6:25-33. Lu. 10:41. 1 Pe. 5:7. Mat. 7:7,8. Lu. 18:1. Ep. 6:18. Col. 4:2. 1 Th. 5:17)

Today...

Q: 3) Does the thought process affect the peace that we experience?

- Thinking affects our attitude, behavior, and sanctification.

Sow a thought, reap an action.
Sow an action, reap a character.
Sow a character, reap a destiny.
- Peaceful Ponder. (Vs. 8-9)
The peace of God remains garrison in our hearts as we continue thinking on the excellency of Jesus.
(Nu. 6:26. Job 22:21; 34:29. Ps. 29:11; 85:8. Is. 26:3, 12; 45:7; 48:18, 22; 55:11; 12; 57:19-21. Je. 33:6. Lu. 1:79; 2:14. Jhn. 14:27; 16:33)
- A Positive Perceptive changes the outlook/ attitude toward life providing hope.
(Jhn. 7:17-18. 2 Co. 8:21; 13:7. Pr. 11:1. 1 Jhn. 3:3; 1 Co. 13; 2 Pe. 1:3, 4. Pr. 31:31)

In closing...

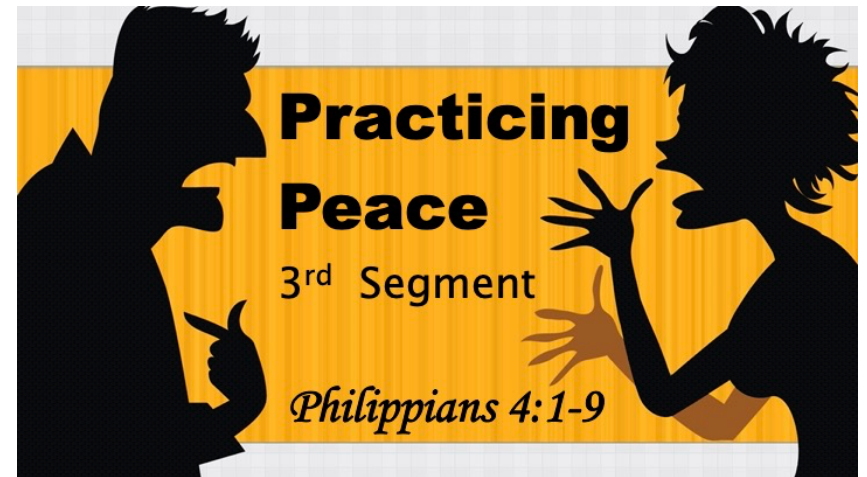
Our mind is not our enemy. We do have control over our thoughts. Commit your thoughts to Jesus.

Digging Deeper

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Are you controlling the thoughts that come through your mind, or are your thoughts controlling you? (Vs. 8-9).

*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.
Philippians 4:8*



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