

Practicing Peace 2nd Segment

Today, we see that while Jesus lives through us, we are examples of His joy and gentleness.

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)

Today...

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 ought 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)
- "The way to be anxious about nothing is to be prayerful about everything." R. Rainy

In closing...

Living the reality, the Lord is my portion, provokes rejoicing and prayer, which eliminates selfish prayers and anxiety.

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Who are you currently at odds with today?
Relate a time when anxiety changed your
circumstances/ perspective for good.
Instead of remaining anxious next time, pray
until the worry dissipates. (Vs. 4-7).

Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition, when infinite joy is offered to us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in the slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.

~ C.S. Lewis



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