

The Path to Peace through a Lion's Den

Text: 1 Peter 5:6-14

Date: July 31, 2022

In this life God delivers us through our trials and sufferings, not from them.

Introduction:

Do you want peace?

Do you want to live a less anxious life?

Do you want to learn how to avoid falling into the enemy's traps, or playing into his hand ... again?

Prepare

Be Humble

Where are you most in need of humility?

God's hand symbolizes discipline... (Ex 3:19; 6:1; Job 30:21; Ps 32:4)
... and deliverance (Dt 9:26; Eze 20:34)

Do Not be Anxious

He cares for you!

God will never give you more than _____ can handle!

Be Aware

Be alert ... of sober mind...

What things are most likely to dull your awareness or make you un-alert?

- Liquid, chemical or vapor?
- Plenty or prosperity?
- _____

Remember

Our enemy the devil wants to devour and destroy you, so danger is all around.

But he cannot take away your salvation. (see: Romans 8:38-39)

The devil is defeated! ... even though he is still dangerous.

How might the devil try to feast on your effectiveness as a follower of Jesus?

Resist

Stand firm. Put on your armor to resist your real enemy.

You are not alone, your brothers and sisters suffer too. “And God is faithful... he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13)

Related passages: Ephesians 6:11-13, 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 and James 4:7

Restore

In this life God delivers us through our trials and sufferings not from them.

“[Jesus] saw two brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets.” (Matthew 4:21)

Restore: Strong, Firm and Steadfast

Prepare: ready to be used again

The Path to Peace through a Lion’s Den is:

Prepare - Be Aware - Remember - Resist - Restore - R _____ !

Peace

As you continue on the path you can have peace...

- His mighty hand will discipline and deliver you
- He cares for you and your anxieties
- He is victorious and your enemy is defeated
- He will restore you and prepare you to be used again
- He will come back to take you home one day

“Peace to all of you who are in Christ.” (1 Peter 5:14b)

Questions for Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

- If the enemy of God could sneak around and take you out, how might he do it?
- What lie or deception could he use to sneak up behind you?
- What idea or belief has greatly influenced you but you’ve never really tested it?
- What causes you to have less joy and peace, or more fears and worries?