



2

Philippians 4:7
7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



3

Peace Thief: Fear of Failure
1. Fear of bad decisions
2. Fear of shortcomings
3. Fear of stumbling
4. Fear of the unknown

Fear of failure steals our peace by taking our focus off God and onto ourselves



4

Sovereignty

The Sovereignty of God means that God is powerful and authoritative to the extent of being able to override all other powers and authorities.



5

Providence

God's seeing to absolutely everything that needs to be done to bring about his purposes..

Wise and purposeful sovereignty



6

Genesis 20

1 From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. 2 And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah.



7

Genesis 20

3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife." **4** Now Abimelech had not approached her. So he said, "Lord, will you kill an innocent people?"



8

Genesis 20

5 Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this."



9

Genesis 20

6 Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her."



10

Genesis 20

7 Now then, return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, so that he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not return her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours."



11

Genesis 20

8 So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid.



12

Genesis 20

9 Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done."



13

Genesis 20

10 And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What did you see, that you did this thing?"



14

Genesis 20

11 Abraham said, "I did it because I thought, 'There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.' **12** Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife.



15

Genesis 20

13 And when God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, "He is my brother."'"



16

Genesis 20

14 Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned Sarah his wife to him. 15 And Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you."



17

Genesis 20

16 To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated."



18

Genesis 20

17 Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. 18 For the Lord had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.



19

God Sovereignly Intervened

“Sara is my sister” deception was meant for Abraham’s own protection during the time of sojourning in the promise land. Abraham’s promise of a son through Sara was now at risk. God supernaturally intervened by warning Abimelech that “he was a dead man” if he touched Sara.



20

Man’s Free Will?

“It was I [the Lord] who kept you [Abimelech] from sinning against me.”
18 For the Lord had closed [past tense] all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah
God was saying “I can protect you”



21

Ezra 6:22

The Lord had made them joyful and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, so that he aided them in the work of the house of God.



22

Acts 4:27-28

In this city [Jerusalem], Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, [gathered together] to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place



23

Proverbs 21:1

“The king’s heart is a stream of water in the hands of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will” (Proverbs 21:1).



24

Metaphor: 5 year old at the Park

How does God’s sovereignty work with man’s free will?



25

Psalm 37:1-7

1 Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! 2 For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb. 3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.



26

Psalm 37:1-7

4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light and your justice as the noonday.



27

Psalm 37:1-7

7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!



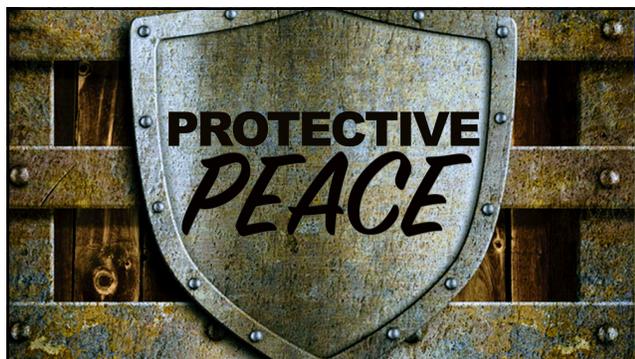
28

Philippians 4:7

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29



30
