

JOHN 14:25-27

"All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

QUOTE

The storms of life make us bitter or better. - unknown



STORMS CAN HELP US

- 1. See more clearly
- 2. Gain better perspective

LUKE 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register. 4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

LUKE 2:1-7

⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

MANGER

A long open box or trough for animals to feed from.



GOD'S PEACE

- 1. Surpasses our understanding.
- 2. Guards our heart or emotions.
- 3. Guards our minds or thoughts.
- 4. Stays with us through our storms.

HEBREWS 13:5

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." 15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

REMINDER

Storms don't last forever!

STORMS

- 1. Finances
- 2. Jobs
- 3. Health issues
- 4. Car problems
- 5. Loss of shelter
- 6. Personal failure

- 7. Other's choices
- 8. Relationships
- 9. Loss

PSALM 57:1

Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.

PSALM 46:10

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

PSALM 91:1-2

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

2 CORINTHIANS 4:8-9

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

PSALM 30:5

For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

QUOTE

I have held many things in my hands, and have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.

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