

# On the Corner Fringe: It Is Well March 26, 2020

The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <https://cornerfringe.com/media/9c2jswr/otcf-it-is-well>

\*Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a comprehensive, written document. Special attention was given to preserve the original context, but this document is **not verbatim**. Scripture verses are in the red text with other quotes in blue. Therefore, it is recommended that this document be printed in color. The Hebrew words are generally accompanied by the transliteration into the English alphabet. In most cases, the Hebrew is to be read from right to left.

## Shalom in Adversity: Finding Peace through Yeshua

In this transcript of a teaching presented by **Pastor Daniel Joseph** of **Corner Fringe Ministries**, Daniel explores the biblical concept of **shalom**, or divine peace, through the story of the **Shunammite woman**. Despite the sudden death of her son, the woman tells the prophet Elisha that "**it is well**," demonstrating a faith that transcends her tragic circumstances. Daniel argues that this "**peace which surpasses all understanding**" is not a product of human effort but a gift found through a relationship with **Yeshua (Jesus Christ)**. He contrasts this spiritual tranquility with the world's reliance on temporary fixes like medication or wealth to soothe anxiety and depression. Ultimately, he emphasises that true peace is maintained through **obedience to God's commandments** and total trust in His sovereignty. By abiding in the **Prince of Peace**, believers are empowered to remain joyful and steadfast even while facing deep sorrow or adversity.

Shalom, everyone. I'm Daniel Joseph, and you're on "*The Corner Fringe*." Today I want to take you back to the book of Second Kings and share a story about Elisha the prophet and his interaction with a notable woman from Shunem. Typically, we call her the Shunammite woman.

This woman revered him greatly because she revered the Lord, and she loved those who loved Him. So, she honors the prophet by encouraging her husband to build a small room for him, a small place for him to stay so that when he comes into town, he can turn in and stay with them.

Over time, the prophet wants to return the favor and do something for her. She had no son, so ultimately, he prophesies over her (2 Kings 4:16), "**About this time next year you shall embrace a son.**" And the thought of it was so overwhelming to her that her response was, "**No, my lord. Man of God, do not lie to your maidservant!**" It was something that meant so much to her, just the thought of her having a son. This desire was so deep in her heart that she was overwhelmed. Well, sure enough, just as



the prophet spoke, it happened. She ends up bearing a son. And over the course of time, unfortunately, her son passes away.

Now, I don't think there'd be a whole lot of debate regarding probably the most painful thing anyone can experience in this life: the loss of a child. It's a very, very difficult thing. Well, this woman, having experienced the worst of the worst, and the way she responds boggles the mind. There's something about this woman, her character, and her faith that we need to pick up on. So, to help you understand this, I want to take you back to 2 Kings. Let's look at this for a little bit.

2 Kings 4:23—**So he said, "Why are you going to him today?"** Now the context here is that the woman lost her son. Her husband is wondering why she's going to the prophet Elisha. Now isn't it weird that she hasn't come to him, broken down before him, weeping as any normal parent would, and said, "Our son is no more, our son is no more?" She doesn't say anything about this; this is baffling. So, the husband says, **"It is neither the New Moon nor the Sabbath."** As the husband obviously knows, something is wrong. You're going to see Elisha, but this doesn't even make sense. What's going on? **And she said to her husband, "It is well"** (emphasis added). It is well."

Now, you look at this in the flesh, and I don't care how you cut it; everything is not well. Everything's the opposite of "It is well." And yet this woman in this situation says, "No, it is well." She doesn't even tell him about the death of their child. This is incredibly baffling.

2 Kings 4:24-26—**Then she saddled a donkey, and said to her servant, "Drive, and go forward; do not slacken the pace for me unless I tell you."** <sup>25</sup> And so she departed, and went to the man of God at Mount Carmel. **So it was, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to his servant Gehazi, "Look, the Shunammite woman!"** <sup>26</sup> **Please run now to meet her, and say to her, 'Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Oh, look at this: Is it well with the child?'"** He specifically asks, "Is it well with the child?"

Now the prophet approaches her. This is the time out of any time that you would say, "Oh yeah, no, it's not well; everything's horrible. Everything's falling apart in my life. I'm a cursed woman, and I've lost my son." She doesn't say any of that. **And she answered, "It is well."** (Emphasis added).

And you think of the song, "It is well with my soul." How can she do this? How can she say this? She has something that I want. She has something that you should want right now. Now, as you peel back the layers, it gets interesting. When you look at this in Hebrew, here we have, "It is well." Three simple words, beautiful words, and songs have been written based upon these three words. In Hebrew it's just one word. In Hebrew it's *"shalom"* (שָׁלוֹם). And *"shalom"* means "it is well." It means well-being. It means peace. This woman is in the face of all adversity. As this woman is literally sitting in the valley of the shadow of death, she's telling her husband; she is telling the prophet, "I have peace." "I have peace." How does she have peace, and where does this peace come from? How in the world could she acquire such peace?



Well, it's interesting. The Apostle Paul says in Philippians 4:6-7, **"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and look at this: <sup>7</sup> and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding** (emphasis added). I'm going to tell you something I want to stop right here: this is what the woman has. She has a peace that surpasses all understanding.

This story of the Shunammite woman doesn't make any sense. Her response was, "Shalom; I have Shalom. All is well; it is well." It doesn't make any sense because it is a *shalom* that surpasses understanding. Again, I ask, "Where does this come from?" Well, Paul goes on and says, **"Will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."** So where does this come from? Where does this kind of peace that surpasses all understanding come from? It comes through the Messiah Yeshua.

Yeshua says this in John 16:33, **"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace.** In Me you will have peace, so where do we get this peace that this Shunammite woman has? It's in Yeshua. It's in the Savior, the Redeemer, the hope of Israel. It's in Him. **In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, have shalom because I have overcome the world."** (Emphasis added). I'm telling you right now, this Shunammite woman knew this. She had a peace that surpassed all understanding; she had perfect clarity because she knew the Lord, and I would argue she knew Yeshua. She knew Him, and through this valley of the shadow of death, only through Him could she possibly have this kind of peace.

Paul says to the Ephesians in Ephesians 2:14, **"For He,** meaning Yeshua **Himself is our peace** (emphasis added). He is our peace. Absence from Him is what? It's the opposite of *shalom*. It is fear; it is anxiety. It is depression. It is all of these things, and these things have a crippling effect on mankind.

You know, the reality is when we're dealing with things, and these are things that, in my own life, I've had to be confronted with. When you have the sorrow of the world, when you're dealing with depression, when you're dealing with anxieties. These are flags. These are symptoms of a problem. And the problem is, we're not in the right relationship with the Lord. When Yeshua is living inside our hearts, we have a peace that surpasses all understanding. When the cares of the world start to engulf us, and worries start to consume us, something is wrong. This is a flag. You need to pick up on this. I cannot overemphasize this point enough. It's telling you something in your relationship with the Lord is fractured. You're not where you need to be. Your focus is not right. He's not fully living in your heart. You have not fully submitted and fully trusted in Him.

How is it that Paul and Silas can be thrown in jail for not doing anything but sharing the love of Yeshua? That's what they did. They shared the love of Yeshua. How is it that they can be thrown into prison and chained, and they're not told beforehand, "Don't worry about it"? You're only going to be in there for a day or two. Everything's going to be fine. They're not told anything. They do not know the outcome, and they're in prison, and they're singing Psalms and hymns. How in the world can these men be in the epitome of the shadow of death and rejoicing in the Lord? Because they had *shalom*. They had a peace that surpassed all understanding. For them, it is well. It was well because they had a relationship with the Lord. Yeshua was living in their heart. They relied on—they trusted in Him.

Their circumstances didn't define who they were. Rather, it's the exact opposite. The peace that they had in Yeshua defined the circumstances they were experiencing. In other words, those things didn't have power over them. And so, I'm going to say, if you're struggling with anxieties and fears and depressions and certain situations that have been horrible in your lifetime, that have happened to you, have plagued you, and have brought you into bondage. I am telling you right now, you've got to run to the peace that surpasses all understanding. You have to go to the Sars Shalom, the Prince of Peace, and until you allow Him to dwell within you, you're going to be plagued by these things.

It's sad to me because, you know, we're treating symptoms today. When we have anxiety, or we have depression, we start popping pills. Some people go to the bottle. We're treating symptoms; we're not going to the problem. If you really want to deal with the pain and the suffering, cast (1 Peter 5:7) **all your care upon Him, for He cares for you**, but you must first believe it. You must first actually believe it to give Him your heart fully, and when you do, He will fill you with *shalom*. You will be able to say things that absolutely baffle people's minds.

Your response to horrible things that happen in your life will baffle people's minds because, in their minds, you're like, "You should be falling apart right now, not singing hymns and songs, not rejoicing." And I think of Job, who lost his family. He lost everything he had, and he comes back. Though make no mistake, every cell in his body is feeling the weight of it. And in that pain, he comes back and says in Job 1:21, **"Blessed be the name of the LORD."** I'm telling you right now, that's what I want. I want what Job had. I want what the Shunammite woman has. I want this peace, knowing that we're getting into dark days right now, times that are pure evil; they are vile. We need this peace. We need to have the joy of the Lord, but we can't have that by going to the bottle. We can't have that by popping pills. The pills aren't going to make us happy, with all due respect.

Not even money. And people keep saying it. I've heard this so many times: if I just had this much money, if I just had this living standard, if I were just in this car, if I just had this; no, no, no, you need Jesus. That's what you need. You need something that passes all understanding. You need to have power. You need to have that love. You need to feel that compassion in your heart so that you can give it, and then you will have peace. Your situation won't matter because your King is alive. After all, Yeshua is on the throne; the Prince of Peace is on the throne.

I want to take you to the book of Isaiah, because there's another aspect of this piece, pun intended, that we need to get the peace, if you will. Isaiah 48:18—**Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.** I grew up singing this song in Sunday school, right? You know, "Peace is like a river, peace like a river in my soul." Where do I get that peace? How do I obtain that in this dark and vile and painful world filled with sorrow and iniquity? Where do I get that? I get that from Yeshua by keeping His commandments and walking in them. Then I will have peace like a river.

I'm going to tell you this right now, a confession moment, if you will. My life, when I'm feeling the most stressed, and I'm feeling the most anxiety, and depression starts to sink in. I can tell you, there's something wrong with my relationship with the Lord. And when I realize it, I get it back in line; when I realize, you know what? I'm not doing the things I need to be doing. Or let's talk about bitterness and unforgiveness. You want something to plague your very being, to open up all sorts of doors to pandemonium in your life? Just hang on to that plague. Hang on to bitterness and to anger and watch

what it does; it will consume you. The only person you're harming is yourself. It will consume you. You will not have any peace.

Do you know why? You're not keeping the commandments. We're supposed to forgive others as we have been forgiven, right? This is what we're supposed to do. This is what we're supposed to go out and show. But I can't do that. I can't show forgiveness. I can't be merciful. I can't have love for my neighbor unless I have Yeshua living in my heart. The peace that passes all understanding. Unless I'm going to walk out His commandments; only then do the doors open to freedom and to liberty.

You know, it could be other commandments, too. It doesn't matter what it is. If you're taking the Lord's name in vain, if you're not honoring your mother and father, if you're not doing these things, you're going to have anxiety. You're going to open the doors up for all sorts of misery. You'll never have peace, because peace, like a river, comes through obedience. Peace, like a river, comes because you have Yeshua in your heart.

And I'm going to close with this: Revelation 12:17—**And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ** (emphasis added). Where do we get peace? It's in these very things. It's in these things. It's when I keep His commandments. It's when I testify, I call, and I believe in the Son of God, in the Messiah Yeshua. Then I can have this *shalom*. Then, and only then, can I understand this story of the Shunammite woman, where she's able to say, "It is well."

Well, that's all for today. Have a blessed week, and be diligent in finding that peace. *Shalom*.



# It Is Well: Finding Shalom in Life's Darkest Valleys

## THE NATURE OF TRUE PEACE (SHALOM)



### More Than Just "Hello"

The Hebrew word *Shalom* means well-being, wholeness, and the declaration that "it is well."



### Peace That Surpasses Understanding

This divine peace remains even when circumstances are painful, confusing, or seemingly hopeless.

## The Shunammite Woman's Faith

Despite losing her son, she told the prophet "It is well" (*Shalom*).



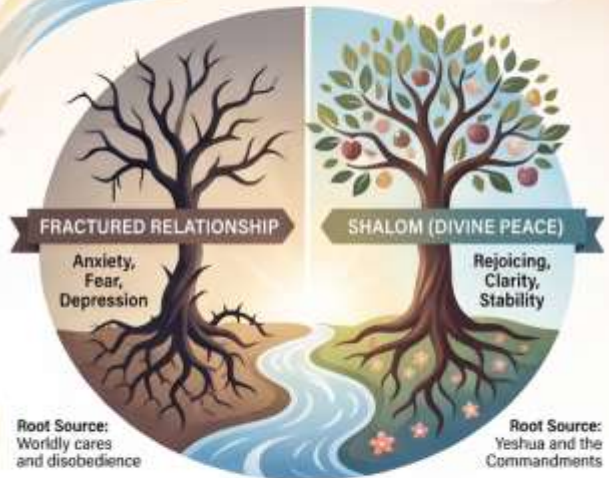
## HOW TO CULTIVATE SHALOM

### Yeshua is the Prince of Peace

True peace is found only through a direct, submitted relationship with Yeshua the Messiah.

### Peace Through Obedience

Isaiah 48:18 teaches that keeping God's commandments makes peace flow like a river.



## Recognize Spiritual "Flags"

Chronic anxiety and depression are symptoms indicating a fractured focus in one's relationship with God.