

MARRIAGE BY THE BOOK

THE SHOES OF PEACE

1. REVIEW

A. When you accepted Jesus, you were JUSTIFIED. HOWEVER, the rest of your time on earth, you are being SANCTIFIED.

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NASB) Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

a. NOTE THE ORDER THAT GOD SANCTIFIES...

1) SPIRIT

2) SOUL... MIND, WILL, AND EMOTIONS

3) BODY

2. Your SOUL has become DISTORTED through:

1) The CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR OWN SIN.

2) The EFFECT THAT OTHER'S SIN has had on you.

3) By THE WAY YOU WERE RAISED.

4) By WHAT YOUR PEERS HAVE SAID OR DONE to you.

5) By the MEDIA and CULTURE.

6) By the THINGS YOU LEARNED IN SCHOOL.

3. Your DAMAGED SOUL is rubbing off on the BODY, and the BODY is simply ACTING AS AN EXPRESSION OF THAT DAMAGE.

a. Everyone views LIFE through the LENS OF A DISTORTED SOUL.

B. GOD works from the SPIRIT FIRST (INTERNAL), then to the SOUL, and finally to the BODY.

1. Soooo... if you want your BODY TO BE VICTORIOUS IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE, BEGIN by getting your SOUL TO BE VICTORIOUS IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE.

a. And if you want your SOUL TO BE VICTORIOUS IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE, BEGIN by feeding and NOURISHING THE SPIRIT IMPLANTED WITHIN YOU WITH THE WORD OF GOD.

1) INSTEAD OF NOURISHING OUR SPIRIT WITH THE WORD OF GOD, many of us READ "HOW TO" BOOKS and try to UNDERSTAND what WE NEED TO DO TO CHANGE OUR SOULS.

b. BUT... GOD GIVES PEACE all by Himself, and He STARTS THE PROCESS right INSIDE YOUR SPIRIT.

C. Here is HOW IT WORKS:

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1. YOU READ, STUDY, MEDITATE, and MEMORIZE PERTINANT PARTS OF GOD'S WORD.
 2. THEN THE HOLY SPIRIT RELEASES THAT TRUTH — what you might call the DNA of God — into your SPIRIT.
 3. Your SPIRIT then DELIVERS GOD'S TRUTH it to your SOUL (MIND, WILL, and EMOTIONS).
 4. THEREFORE, you must START by REPLACING THE DISTORTIONS within your SOUL WITH THE TRUTH OF GOD.
 5. The ONLY WAY TO EXPERIENCE TRUE and AUTHENTIC PEACE IS TO SUBMIT YOUR MIND, WILL, AND EMOTIONS... YOUR SOUL... TO THE TRUTH OF GOD FOUND IN HIS WORD.
 6. T H E N YOUR SOUL RELEASES GOD'S WORD INTO OUR BODY, TELLING IT HOW TO ACT.
 7. ONLY THEN CAN WE CAN EXPERIENCE THE PEACE OF GOD IN THE MIDDLE OF NEGATIVE CIRCUMSTANCES!
2. EXAMPLE: You recently LOST YOUR JOB and you have NO MONEY IN THE BANK.
- A. Those are the FACTS and they might CAUSE YOU TO WORRY.
1. B-U-T... the TRUTH of GOD says,
 2. Philippians 4:19 (NASB) And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
 3. Romans 8:28 (NASB) And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.
- B. WHICH ARE YOU GOING TO BELIEVE and ACT ON?
1. The FACTS you see, OR the TRUTH that may not be so readily visible to the natural eye?
 - a. Your SOUL is telling you, “Hey, you’re broke. They’re going to turn off your lights and kick you out of your house.”
 - b. Your SPIRIT is telling you, “God will provide for your NEEDS.”
 - 1) NOTE: GOD WILL PROVIDE for our NEEDS... NOT our WANTS!
 2. Putting on THE SHOES OF PEACE means aligning your SOUL under the rule of your SPIRIT which is under the TRUTH of GOD.
 - a. WE MUST EXCHANGE OUR SOUL'S PERSPECTIVE on our CIRCUMSTANCES with what our SPIRIT KNOWS to be TRUE.

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3. When you **CHOOSE** to **RELY** on the **TRUTH of GOD**, **HE WILL RELEASE PEACE INTO YOUR LIFE** because **GOD'S WORD** is now ruling your **MIND, WILL, AND EMOTIONS**.
- C. **WHEN WORRY and DOUBT creep back in, TELL Satan he's LYING... BECAUSE GOD's TRUTH HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE!**
- D. That's why **KNOWING** and **LIVING BY** the **PRINCIPLES FOUND IN GOD'S WORD** are **VITAL** to your **VICTORY IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE**.
- E. **Philippians 4:6-7 (NASB)** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the **peace of God**, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- F. **Isaiah 26:3 (NASB)** "The steadfast of mind You will keep in **perfect peace**, **Because he trusts in You**.
 1. **TRUSTING GOD PRODUCES PEACE!**
- G. **NOTE: GOD DOES NOT ALWAYS CHANGE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES... B-U-T HE ALWAYS JOINS US IN OUR CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN OUR TRUST IS IN HIM.**
 1. and He **WILL** give you the **PEACE** you **NEED** to **OVERCOME YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES, NOT ALLOWING YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES TO OVERCOME YOU... IF YOU TRUST HIM** and **HIS WORD**.
 2. **Psalms 37:25 (NASB)** I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging bread.
 - a. **If you have LOST your JOB, go to God and say, "God, You said that if a person doesn't work, that person shouldn't eat. I'm willing to work so that I can eat, so I'm thanking You now for the job that You are already preparing for me that hasn't made itself known just yet."**
- H. **EVERY ATTACK ON PEACE IN YOUR LIFE** needs to be taken straight back to the **SPIRITUAL** realm and **REPLACED** with **WHAT GOD'S WORD** has to say on the matter:
 1. **JOB**
 2. **MARRIAGE**
 3. **CHILDREN**
 4. **HEALTH**
 5. **ANGER**
 6. **FEAR**
 7. **PRIDE**
 8. **SELFISHNESS**
 9. **EVERY ATTACK ON PEACE IN YOUR LIFE.**

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3. **ISN'T IT TIME TO STOP LISTENING TO SATAN AND REBUKE HIM IN THE NAME OF YOUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST???**

4. **"OVERHEARD IN AN ORCHARD"**

"Said the robin to the sparrow,

I would really like to know

Why these anxious human beings

Rush about and worry so.

Said the sparrow to the robin,

Friend, I think that it must be

That they have no Heavenly Father

Such as cares for you and me."

5. **STORYTIME:** A **young boy** was a **passenger** flying on an **airplane** through a **terrible storm**.

A. The turbulence was causing the **passengers to panic**. However, the young **boy was not afraid**.

B. One of the passengers next to the boy turned to him and asked, **"How can you be so calm in the middle of all of this?"**

C. The young boy replied, **"Because my father is the pilot."**

D. **WHEN YOU KNOW WHO IS AT THE CONTROLS, YOU CAN HAVE PEACE... EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF LIFE'S STORMS!**

6. **DISCUSS:** **"JESUS CALLING"** AND **"BE MATURE"** by Warren Wiersbe

7. **QUESTIONS** and **DISCUSSION**

SCRIPTURE
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