

## **Expose 78 K42**

### **The Weapon of Peace: When...**

Good morning world, this is Expose 247. So we welcome you again. We are sorry for running late this morning. We welcome you to another time of refreshing just like Peter said that day. And this is the time of refreshing from the Lord, the acceptable year of the Lord. So we are not welcoming you to a feel good moment, we are not welcoming you to a time of bellaughter and de-stressing, just like what we shared yesterday. We are talking about the peace of God.

So if you have not make peace with God, this is the time for you to make peace with God. And if you have made peace with God, you need to know the peace of God. That is what we are talking about in Philippians Chapter 4 verse 6 to 8. We are talking about the peace of God. And this is the peace we are talking, the peace is not what you can compute on the natural realm of reasoning. That is why we challenge you yesterday night for you to come to an higher realm of thinking and reasoning, so engaging your mind in this process of the peace.

So we are going to continue from where we stopped yesterday and from other aspects of the prayer, Knock Out season that we talked about, there is no way we could give the summary this morning. So you will do well to go to our Expose 247 page to listen to all of these. So you can find a way of downloading it and listen to all these series. And the other topics we had on prayer. Some people are asking, is it only prayer that we talked about? If you have gone to the page, you will have seen some other topics that we talked about. We had some series on foundational principles of who we are in Christ, and what Christ is to the church, what the New Testament is and that. Then we went to the prodigal father series. You can see, we explored that relationship between the father, the elder brother and the younger brother. Then we got to the Knock Out season and we did on Thanksgiving, we did on Offering and Tithe and we are on prayer and there is no way we want to gloss over prayer. So we are going to give it the whole full counsel of God, verse by verse, scriptures by scriptures.

So you will do well to listen to this, and like the page not even liking the vidoe. Like the page so that you can get all these things and get every other one that might be coming during the week. We have some text transmission of all our previous episode will be coming this week, so you go to that page, you like the page, you follow and you might even...

So this morning we are kicking off from where we stopped. And will you want to go straightaway or you want to summarize for our viewers.

Viewers thank you again for tuning into this Knock Out series. At the moment we've been going through our stand as Christians in this warfare. And of course if you don't know or if you are not aware that we are in a warfare, it could be you are sleeping because every child of God is born into a warfare.

Don't forget the fact that as soon as you become a child of God, as soon as you become a Christian, every of God's enemy becomes your enemy. That is the point. You've actually switch side to God's side. So you are on against all the enemies of God. And then the Bible then gives us, the way out, he says you can be definitely sure that you will make it no matter what. And he says how? He says if you take on the full armor of God. So we've been looking at that. And currently we are looking at having your feet kitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace. That is Ephesians 6:15. And that is what are currently exploring in the scriptures.

And today we are looking at a different dimension of this peace, weapon of peace, the armory of peace. And then, I will invite you quickly to join us from where we stopped yesterday as we begin to explore this new dimension of peace, which is the third item in our armory.

Now, quickly let's go back to Philippians 4 which is where we stopped in our last transmissions. And we then kick start from verse 8 which seem to be the verse that we actually stopped with.

He says,

### **Philippians 4:8**

**8. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.**

Now, again like she did talk about, yesterday we made a recourse to Philippians Chapter 4 and I think we started from verse 4, 5, 6 yesterday. And we said something, the Bible says don't be anxious for nothing. So we then see yesterday what the enemy uses to target us. The reason why the scriptures encourages the believer to take on the full armor, is not because it's a kind of show. This is not something for decoration. This is for survival. He says that things are going to come at you from the enemy of God. He will throw things at you. He will throw schemes at you, and if you

are going to survive those things you need to have the full armory. So we saw yesterday that anxiety is what he throws at believers. And the Bible says the thing that can become a defense mechanism for you and I against anxiety is peace. We saw that yesterday.

But see what he says from today.

Now, we just finished verse 8. And he says there are things you need to think about. He says, even there is one thing that actually point out in this verse 8. He says anything of good report, think on these things. It means, there are lots of bad report out there. And unfortunately many people are expecting good reports to come from the newspapers. You are expecting Google to give you good report. You are expecting Facebook to give you good report. So you are looking into the wrong place. You are looking for peace in the wrong places.

He says, well, one of the reason why people have anxiety, disorder. The reason why Christians could fall apart in anxiety is because of the kind of reports you are listening to. He says whatsoever things are of good report. You've got to hijack good report and we know where the good report is, you can't find it there in the news. The Bible simply tells us in Isaiah when he was prophesying about Jesus prophetically. He said **who has believed our report? To whom has the arm of the Lord be revealed, for he shall walk before him like a tender shoot, like a root out of dry ground.** He's simply saying, you know what? Jesus! the gospel of Christ Jesus, he said is the report. Unless you meditate and think on these things, the armory at your feet level, your peace, having your feet shod with the readiness of the gospel of peace, is going to elude you. He says anything of good report, think on these things.

Look at verse 9 which is where we actually have to zero in or something. So it means as believer, you've got to think on things and the Bible says not bad report, not what is happening, you have to think on things that are of good report. Meditate on those things. Hijack your thinking from the hand of the enemy, don't outsource your thinking, we mentioned that yesterday.

Look at verse 9, this is where are going to zero in on today.

He said

**9. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.**

Now he says, do...

Now if you notice the movement of this apostolic instruction from verse 4 of Philippians Chapter 4. You will notice he started with saying, prayer with supplication and with thanksgiving make your request know to God and the peace of God will guard your heart and mind. You don't use the word guard unless you are going to protect somebody against something. It's going to protect against anxiety.

Now, it goes from there and then moves and shift from prayer, talking about thinking. Now, it goes from the realm of spirit and he began to talk about the soul, the mind about thinking. And then it goes beyond thinking in verse 8 and then he goes to verse 9 talking about doing.

Now, please I want you to follow us slowly as we look at this. So here was from verse 6 of Philippians 4, he was talking about praying, supplication with thanksgiving. He said the realm of the spirit, and he said take it beyond there and being to think on things of good report. And he said, let's take it beyond thinking of good report, let's talk about you acting out.

Can you go to verse 9?

He said,

**“the things you have learned, the things that you have received and heard and see me do and he said, those things do.”**

Now, it will mean then the reason why in the long run so many people are acting wrong or why people just do things that are not consistent with the truth of the gospel majorly first start from how we think about it. But look at what he says next, watch the next phrase.

**And the God of peace shall be with you.**

I repeat that.

**And**, you know he used the word and, he is simply saying well, do you want the God of peace to be with you?

Now let's say this so that we don't get this wrong in the truth of the gospel.

Now, you see there is nothing that you can do or will do to make God to be with you. Now, let's say that because Hebrews Chapter 13, God said **I will never leave you nor forsake you**. It means, God is committed to you not because of you but because of Christ Jesus that you have received.

God is only committed to his Son in your life. The Bible says, God has given us life and that life is in his Son. So God is committed to you because of Christ. We are talking

about that level because that is true. But what the scriptures is simply saying, and that is why the peace is call the fruit of the spirit. You have the spirit of Christ in you. So naturally... watch the word! He Called peace the fruit not the tree of the spirit and this is the reason, because the peace of God, the goodness of God, the joy of the spirit everything is loaded in you. But it's a fruit because even though you have the tree, you have to produce the fruit. He is simply saying here, if you want the Godof peace to be with you. If you want to produce the result of peace in your life. He says you will have to just go into the realm of praying, thinking and then acting. He said the Godof peace will be with you.

Now, I want to highlight that word **and**. You know what the word **and** means. It means if you don't go through this procedure, you will not see the Godof peace show up in your life. So I just don't want to have the peace of God in my spirit, I want the Godof peace to show up. And he tell us the procedure, he said you've got to pray with thanksgiving and you have to think on good report and then go beyond that and act out what the Word of God says and the Godof peace shall be with you.

Now, the question you are asking is, what is the difference? What difference does it make? It makes a lot of difference, because you will soon see like she said when we started. There is a big difference between you having peace with God and you having the peace of God. Can you see that your prayer and supplication with thanksgiving guaranteed you the peace of God? But he says well, if you go beyond that and you start thinking of good report and you start acting out the Word. Then you can have the Godof peace showing up in your situation.

Now, we are going to look at the implication of this Godof peace. And we are going to look at that in different parts of the scriptures.

Follow us quickly, let's go on to different parts of the scriptures which is 1Thessalonians Chapter 5, don't forget we are looking at where is the Apostle Paul going with his instruction? Where does this Godof peace coming?

Let's go to 1Thessalonians Chapter 5 verse 23.

You can read that please.

### **1Thessalonians 5:23**

**23. And the very Godof peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**And the very Godof peace sanctify you wholly;**

Now again, here we have the God of peace showing up now. What will he do?

**sanctify you wholly;**

Sanctify you wholly; completely, complete sanctification.

Go on please

**and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

You can see that?

Here we see, he says am praying that the God of peace will show up in your situation. So I will tell you how the God of peace show up. Am praying that your spirit, whatsoever is in your spirit. You know for many Christians, and for those who are born again, the reality is, the Bible says **if anybody is in Christ, he is a new creature, old things have passed away. Behold all things have become new.** If you are a Christian, God cannot improve on what he has done in you through Christ Jesus his Son. All things have become new. That is not the problem.

The problem that people have in Christianity, in the kingdom of God is everything that God did in our spirit. The Bible says if anybody is join with the Lord, he is one spirit with him, everything God has done in our spirit is not being processed into our mind. That is why you see Christians who have peace of God in them still having anxiety in their minds. Still having trouble in their mind. Still having confusion in their mentality even though they are a new creature in Christ Jesus in their spirit.

So here is Apostle Paul saying, I will pray, am praying for you that the God of peace will show up in your situation and I will tell you how is going to happen. That what is in your spirit, that even though your spirit has been sanctify, am praying that your soul will become a replica of your spirit, that you will be sanctify completely not partially.

You see, what happens is, when the God of peace has not shown up, when someone has not began to act, think and do according to the Word. What happens is, even though they have the peace with God and they have the peace in their spirit. What happens is, they have what they call a partial sanctification. I used that word. He says if you want to be sanctified completely, I pray that your spirit, your soul eventually, even your body, even your very actions, even your very experience everyday will begin to show this peace. That is why anytime you talk about the God of peace, we are talking about even God manifest in your body. That is why he says I pray that your spirit, soul and body, your daily experience, your daily encounter will reveal and magnify and show forth God.

Now, here we began to see a second testimony in the scriptures of this God of peace. So we are going beyond having peace with God. We are talking about the God of peace taking over. And that is God manifest spirit, soul and body not just locked up in our spirit man. And that is what he was talking about in that Philippians 4:6 and we can see that in 1 Thessalonians Chapter 5 verse 23, that the God of peace sanctify you wholly, completely, that God will be manifest spirit, soul and body in your life. And that is what we have been talking about since yesterday.

And that is the second testimony we do have.

Now, let's look at the third testimony. We are going somewhere, please follow us quickly.

Third testimony, we look at that in Romans 16.

Romans Chapter 16, the God of peace, peace as a weapon.

Now, Romans Chapter 16 verse 20.

### **Romans 16:20**

**20. And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.**

Ok, now again, the God of peace. That is when he takes over.

Now, what happened when the God of peace do this?

**shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.**

Have you notice that from our last transmission, we were talking about peace merely as a defense mechanism against anxiety. And this was what the Apostle Paul did when he started Philippians Chapter 4. But it seems that the Apostle Paul then switch in the midst and said well, if you think on these things am talking about, and if all these things you have learned and received of me, if you do them, then the God of peace shall be with you.

And then here we then see the reason. We then see the very first reason why the Apostle Paul said am leading you on a journey beyond having the peace of God to having the God of peace showing up in your life. He said, the reason is when the God of peace, show up, you see Satan literally getting crush under your feet.

And you are asking the question, how come? We thought that Satan was crushed already at the cross? We thought Satan was destroyed already at the cross? That is

true. But don't forget the Bible says in Revelation that, that serpent, the old serpent that deceive the whole world was cast down into the lake of fire. It will mean that his ministry of deception that is still at work today.

I repeat that again, Satan has been destroyed, the power of the enemy has been consumed at the cross according to Colossians 2:15. But the ministry of Satan's deception is still at work today. And the Bible says well, what will happen is, Satan with all his deceptive mechanism will be crushed under your feet but it will happen when the God of peace shows up in your life. And that is what we see there. That peace is not just a defense mechanism. It's a weapon to crush and pull down everything the enemy is bringing against your life.

Now, let's see something. Again, so we've seen the purpose of this God of peace. **We've seen the reason why the God of peace shows up. He shows up to crush, to put under, everything that the enemy is bringing at you. And what are those things? If you follow us in previous transmission, we said those things are schemes and antics of the devil.**

Now, let's go quickly to Genesis, that is where we begin to bring this to fore. It means, there is something that happens in you and around your life that has effect on your environment. That is what we are trying to look at today that something that happens in you, the God of peace that shows up in your life, that crushes, that put in check things around you, put in check the ministry of the devil, ministry of deception in your life, he put them in check. He said and the God of peace shall crush Satan under your feet shortly. He said continue to walk the process, continue to process the peace and as you do that, you will see that shortly Satan will be crushed under your feet.

Now, Genesis Chapter 3, you can read from verse 15.

You know today a lot of Christians believed the fact that we can pray and declare and speak forth so that we can actually destroy whatever the devil is doing against our lives. But the Bible give us a way out, he said see! When the God of peace shows up, Satan will literally be crushed on your feet. So our problem as it were is not with Satan but is the God of peace showing up in our lives.

Genesis 3, let's look at that.

I want you to read it from verse 15.

**Genesis 3:15**

**15. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shall bruise his heel.**



Now the background, we all know the background of this particular situation. The background is, man has fallen with his wife and then they actually ate of the fruit that God says they should not eat from. And then the partaking of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. They partook of that tree and this is what happened before the Lord God shows up in this situation.

Now, watch this, what does he say then...

**and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.**

Well, this happened at the cross of Calvary.

Go on verse 16,

**16. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception, in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.**

Look at verse 17.

Now, viewers I want you to watch this, look at Genesis 3:17,

**17. And unto Adam he said, because thou has hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;**

Now, I know people normally do end up saying that God cursed Adam and you might be wondering why are we in Genesis 3:17. We are talking about the God of peace, when the God of peace shows up in your situation.

Now, people talk about the fact that God cursed Adam. Have you notice that the man wasn't cursed. If you notice that, I want you to slowly read it, if you have your Bible there, I want you to just follow us so that you can get grip with what we are sharing this morning.

The Lord God did not curse the man, all the Lord God said is, the Bible says the Lord God cursed the ground for the sake of man. So what the Lord was saying is, Adam something has fallen apart in your life and because of your situation Adam, something has happened to the ground because of you.

We repeat that slowly, so God is saying, you might want to say what God told Adam was an announcement as it were. An announcement of a situation, an announcement of an event that is what God brought to Adam. So God said Adam, I will tell you the

situation, because of you, because something has fallen apart in you. Because Adam there seem to be no agreement anymore with your spirit and your soul, that is why God's told Adam who told you, you are naked. Adam you have fallen apart. Adam there is a disconnection in you. And because of you, the ground is cursed because of you.

So what God told Adam was simply an announcement. So you might want to say the ground, the situation of the ground was just a reflection of Adam's situation.

Now, it's important that you as a believer understand this. If you understand this, you will understand the power of redemption. You understand the reason why the Apostle Paul spoke to the Philippians that, am praying that the God of peace. You know you might be wondering why is he talking about the God of peace? He said somebody should not be anxious for nothing, be anxious for nothing and he said the reason why you shouldn't be anxious for nothing, is because if you pray prayer of supplication with thanksgiving, you will have the peace of God and why do you need to have the peace of God? The reason is, **I don't want your heart and your life to be a reflection of your circumstances. And I want your circumstances to be a reflection of your life.**

**That is why he said here, that the problem of humanity started, the problem of the whole world started when the ground, when the land became a reflection of our lives.** So he said, Adam the ground is cursed for your sake. So Adam, if the ground is unproductive, if thorns and thistles are coming from the ground. Adam is a reflection of your life. Adam, your circumstances is a reflection of your current situation. He said the ground is cursed for your sake. Now please take that.

Now, I want you to follow us with this on this reading,

Go on please,

**cursed is the ground for thy sake;**

Can you see that? The ground is cursed for your sake. The ground is not blessed because you are not blessed. The ground is going to be unproductive because you are unproductive.

Go on please,

**in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;**

Go on please,

**18. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shall eat the herb of the field.**

**19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it was thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.**

Now, that is fine.

Now, for the sake of theological analysis, let's summarize. Work! We are not saying we are not talking about work in this case. For some people talk about the fact that God spoke to us that we have to work and out of the sweat we shall eat. Well, that is not the blessed thing to say.

Work preceded the fall, so before Adam fell God gave man an assignment. In fact, God told him to till the ground, and that didn't happen after the fall. God told Adam to till the ground before the fall. It means work as a principle was given by God before there was a fall. Of course that is why the Bible says we should work. Without working, we shouldn't eat. But what happens is, the unproductiveness of the land, and the bringing forth of the thorns and thistle and the sweating and the toil of the land, Bible says that was a reflection of Adam's situation. So we see that the ground was a reflection of his condition. Now, that is the first thing we see.

Now, we are talking about the peace of God. Now, if you are praying as a Christian and you are declaring and speaking the Word of God and in the place of prayer trying to cause a change in your situation. Don't forget that right from the beginning of Genesis, the Bible says the reflection of life, what we see in life, what we see in environment is just our condition.

Now, again, I want us to look, we are trying to build up something to this God of peace that we are looking at.

Look at Psalms Chapter 1 from verse 1,

So circumstances and life as it were is a reflection of man's condition.

Psalms Chapter 1, let's see another testimony to that 'the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.'

### **Psalms 1**

**1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.**

**2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.**

### **3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water**

Now, watch that, he is talking about the condition of the man. Can you see that? The condition of the man, the state of the man now, is not saying anything yet about the man's condition. He said blessed is the man that does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, blessed is the man that does not sit in the seat of the scornful. Blessed is the man...

So you see, about the man, about the man, about the man, so this is all about the man.

Go on please, still about the man,

### **2. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.**

Still about the man,

### **and in his law doth he meditate day and night.**

Still about the man,

### **3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water**

Still about the man,

### **that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither;**

Still about the man.

### **and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.**

Can you see that? He's saying that whatever the man does shall be a reflection of what is on him, what is on his life. You see, this is the reason why we've gone to Genesis 3:17 to show you by the scriptures that if you are trying to cause a change and cause a change in your situation, you will need the God of peace to show up and why is that?

### **Because your circumstances and things around you right from Genesis has always been a reflection of what is upon your life.**

And then in the case of Adam, we saw that in Genesis 3:17 that the ground was cursed for his sake and here we see another testimony in Psalms Chapter 1 that tells us because the man is blessed, whatever the man lay his hand upon to do shall prosper. There is something the man that reflect upon what he does. Now we see that.

Now, we are going somewhere with this. That is what Psalms Chapter 1 says.

Now, look at the third testimony. Psalms 82:5. By the time we look at all these testimonies, we can then build up and coming back to Philippians Chapter 4 to see why we are talking about the God of peace that crushes Satan on our feet.

### **Psalms 82:5**

**5. They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.**

Now, he says, look at that. They walk on in darkness, they are the ones walking on in darkness. And he says the foundation of the earth are out of course. They walk on in darkness, the foundation of the earth reflect their own confusion. The situation of humanity, the situation of the environment is a reflection of what their experience is.

The last testimony before we go back to Philippians Chapter 4.

Now, go to the book of Romans Chapter 8 verse 19,

This is the reason why we must use peace as a weapon.

Now Romans 8:19 what does it say then,

### **Romans 8:19**

**19. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestations of the sons of God.**

**22. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.**

Now, he says all of creature, all of creature. Now, think about creature, think about anything you can think about in terms of creature, everything that is in creation is in trouble up till now. Why are they in trouble?

Go on what does he say next?

He says all of creation is in trouble and he is going to tell you why they are in trouble.

**23. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.**

Now, if you go to verse 19, what does it say then?

**19. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestations of the sons of God.**

Now, why are they waiting for the manifestation of God's son?

Go on please,

**20. For the creature was made subject to vanity not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope.**

Ok, now what do you see there? He is saying well, the reason why creature is in trouble is not because of creature. He said, creature is waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. What that mean is, creature at the moment, all of creature at the moment the reason why they are in bondage is because the sons of God are yet to manifest. He says if the sons of God manifest creature will be liberated from the bondage to decay.

Verse 21 was saying that

**21. Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.**

Can you see that? So creature is in bondage because the sons of God are not manifesting themselves. As soon as the sons of God manifest themselves, creature will be liberated.

When we say creature we are talking in context about everything about the environment. And that is the reason why you notice if you go out there today, everything decays. And he says the reason why that is, until we complete the redemption of our bodies, until we are completely liberated, he said creature will not be liberated.

Now, let's come back to this, let's tie this up. He's simply saying that as it were, your environment, your condition, the things that you are doing, everything about your circumstances, they are the ones, whatever you see in your circumstances, they are a reflection of what is upon your life. Why are we talking about this today? Why does this connect with the issue of peace? This is the reason.

Let's go back to Philippians Chapter 4. So we've seen four testimonies in the scripture. Genesis tells us, Romans tell us, we've see this also in Psalms Chapter 1, we've seen this also in Psalms 82 verse 5 and all these four verses are simply saying that what is happening about humanity today, what is happening to the ground today, what is happening to the circumstances of humanity today is a reflection of what is upon our life.

Now, let's go back to Philippians Chapter 4 and begin to tidy all these up in context.

What does he say there? I want you to read from verse 4 again.

Philippians Chapter 4 from verse 4 and let's now run it all through with this new understanding we have about the peace of God.

### **Philippians 4:6**

**6. Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

Don't forget that this nothing are your circumstances. He said be careful for nothing, don't be anxious about nothing. It will mean that, don't let your life be a reflection of your circumstance. Your circumstances are not the one driving you around. That is the point. Don't forget that we did say, that God told Adam that the ground is a reflection of you. He said the ground is curse for your sake. Here he is saying to you and I that no! It is wrong for your life to be a reflection of your circumstances. Don't be anxious for nothing. Don't be careful for nothing. Don't fall apart because things are falling apart.

Now, he is trying to tell us something about this peace. So simply put, don't fall apart because things are falling apart. Don't let your life be a reflection of your circumstances.

Go on please,

**...but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

Ok, what is going to happen?

**7. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**

Now, go on then,

**8. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.**

Now, you know a casual reader of this Philippians 4 would have thought he says well, when things are happening around your life, just try to insulate yourself with peace, don't bother about them, you can't change anything, you cannot influence your circumstances.

Now, that is not exactly what he is saying. He is simply saying am asking you not to be reflection of situation, because I want your situation to be a reflection of you. That is why he says and the peace of God will guard your heart and your mind, and he goes on to say the God of peace shall be with you. And Romans 16:20 tells us when the God of peace show up, then things will begin to get crushed, everything of the devil around you will start to get crush. It seems he is saying then, the reason why you cannot afford your life, your thinking, your life style will be reflection of your circumstances is because I want your circumstances to be a reflection of you not the other way round. That is why he ended up with the God of peace that will crush Satan under your feet.

And so it means, as Christians, as much as we are focused in binding, in losing, in casting, in throwing down, that is not the main issue. The main issue is the scriptures says in Genesis that your circumstances will always be a reflection of what is upon your destiny. It means, he is saying if the peace of God is guarding your heart and mind through Christ Jesus, the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet. He will crush, it means your circumstances will end up being a reflection of that which has come into your heart which is the peace of God and not the other way round. And that is what he is simply saying there.

Among many other things, that we shared today I hope we will not lose sight of this revelational insight telling us about what peace of God and the peace with God means. Because some people they've actually made peace with God. You know they have been reconcile unto God but they've not come to this other level of living, having the peace of God. So they have peace with God.

So we can see today that there is a difference to that. You have made peace with God at Calvary but you don't have the peace of God because we see in Philippians 4:18, you are a circumstantial Christian. So you are being tossed, when the situation is high then you are high, when things around are low, then you are low and then you have a lot of things taking your attention and you are thinking about. What to eat like we shared yesterday, what to put on and all the cares of the life, all the normal things that takes people attention and take their mind and overcharge with all these things not just because there are things that happen that everybody think about, but being overcharge by them.

We are not just saying you remove yourself from the situation or become irresponsible or you abscond from your responsibility, that is not what but being overcharged by these things. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them, knows that you need to go by all those things. But being overcharge we saw that, that is what he is calling us today to even understand that peace. That you can come into that



Christian walk in which apart from having peace with God, you are able to live, having the peace of God with you.

And today we are able to see that this peace can be both instrument of defense and offense. Before people always think is just for defense alone, just to keep yourself at bay and keep calm and then working in you and to stay calm and stay in charge. We saw that a lot that, you can use it as an instrument of offense which he was saying that bruising the Satan, the God of peace himself can use that Peace to crush whatsoever that is satanic in your lives. So we can see that peace that what we are talking about, sharing about peace is something that you need to pay attention to, and know that you can be both as instrument of offense and of defense.

And then again, we have a revelational insight, I hope you got that from today to know that, you don't need to run away from circumstances. Some people are travelling from another place and saying oh! this place is messed up and I have to go, I have to move away from this society. I have to run away from this culture and all those kind of things. We found that you are in charge of this. Just what we have found in the book of Genesis Chapter 3. What we find in Psalms 1, you are in charge of your environment. You can make your environment a reflection of what is inside of you.

So you can actually change, we saw what happened to Adam that the environment was cursed because he fell apart, he fell apart. So that is the thing. So we are just telling you, you are responsible for your position. It might look so sharp but that is the truth of God's Word. You are responsible for how your environment is. So if the environment is curse, you caused the curse. Let's put it that way. That is why you can see the contrast in Psalms Chapter 1. Because the man is blessed, everything around him is blessed. Everything was a reflection of what was on him. Because he had the peace of God. You see even the tree, they bring forth in seasons and you see the leaves blossoming and you see those fruits and everything blossoming around him.

So that Romans 8 was telling us that we are in charge of what happened. So we are actually responsible. So the peace process we are calling you to, that you might just feel like oh! Do I want to participate? Do I really need to take this serious? You need to take this serious because you are responsible for what is happening around you. What is inside of you, it gets reflected on what is happening around you.

And so if you really want to change what is happening around you, you need to change what is inside of you. And that brings us back to what Philippians 4, the opening Chapter of peace is about, that you don't allow what is outside of you to come in, you really need to work on this. You really need to work and you have the advantage to work on the inside of you and when you can get the peace of God inside

of you, then everything around you will change, will embrace that peace of God that is inside of you.

So we are leaving you with that responsibility today to understand that you have the responsibility to change what is around you. So you need not run away and say No! some feel like the only thing they can do when they see things around them is to run away from it. So we see the creature, everything is waiting, is in bondage to what is inside of you.

So you need to release today, you need to release things around you. You need to release your circumstance from the bondage. You need to release that situation that is waiting on you. So we are telling you that those things that is waiting on you, those factors you want to run away from are actually waiting on you, that you are going to absorb the peace of God, that you are going to get into this peace that we are talking about so that you can release the creature around you will be released.

Now, it will seem to us by the scriptures Philippians Chapter 4 verse 9, I want to take this again, the B part of it says

**and the God of peace shall be with you,**

It will sound then, that by the scriptures, it seems we are taking away an opportunity from God. Can you see? It seems that the Apostle Paul from verse 6 of Philippians 4 was talking about the peace of God shall guard heart and mind, it will then seem that the Apostle Paul had an apostolic strategy and he says, when all these things fall in place, and the God of peace shall be with you. It means, he is simply saying if we allow anxiety, and we are the one driven around by the circumstances, and we are the one being flung around by the circumstances, what happened, we take away the opportunity for the God of peace to show up and crush the circumstances. Can you see that?

So it means then, what the Apostle Paul had in mind was both a defense and offensive mechanism at the same time. He said the reason why am asking you to guard your heart and mind against anxiety by prayers, supplication with thanksgiving is because I want you to give the opportunity for the God of peace. He used the word and, the God of peace. You only use the word and in conjunction to simply say, well, if you don't walk in what I told you from Chapter 4 from verse 1-8, you made verse 9 very hard and the God of peace shall show up. And we see what that God of peace does. It means, he will put everything in check around your life. But then don't forget, your life will ultimately, it's a matter of time, be a reflection of the state of your heart, the state of your soul. If you are turmoil, if you are confuse, your environment, everything

around you will pick up your particular status and that is why every child of God must give God of peace the opportunity to show up.

So don't forget like we've said, there is a peace with God, there is a peace of God and there is a God of peace, giving you the opportunity to show up in a situation.

Now, let's go quickly and see some other things to clarify this. Let's go to the book of 2 Corinthians 10. It's a very popular verse that we normally read, verse 4, verse 6.

See what it says,

You can read verse 5 and 6.

### **2 Corinthians 10:5**

**5. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;**

**Casting down imaginations,**

Well, that is about your soul, that is about your heart. Can you see?

**and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;**

That is about anxiety, confusion, make sure you put everything in check that the peace of God reigns in you.

Why did you have to do that? Look at next verse,

**6. And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.**

Don't forget, yesterday we read Ephesians 6:15 the readiness of the gospel of peace. Readiness to do what?

**to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.**

It means we are not ready yet. We are not ready yet. We are not ready to put things in check because God is saying, I will guarantee that your circumstances reflect your situation. That is the guarantee of the God of peace. The God of peace has a guaranteed. He says if you have peace, I will guarantee that everything around you going crazy will fall in line. You will be ready to punish every disobedience. Once your obedience and if your notice, if you are wondering what kind of obedience he is

talking about because when we say obedience, people have this kind of strange notion about somebody saying Yes, I bow down my head, looking pious and all that.

Well, he told us in verse 5 and 4 what this obedience is. He says you bringing into captivity every thoughts, there is nothing about confusion, anxiety and all that going about in your mind. He said that cannot happened. He said, well, if you do that and make charge of that and then give the God of Peace, give him room to show up, give him room to give every disobedience in check in your life.

So we see this place where he tells us, why we need to have this peace of God at work in our lives so that the God of peace can have the opportunity to put Satan in check all around our lives.

And again, let's look at Hebrews Chapter 12 verse 14. So we see peace as both a defense mechanism and an offensive mechanism when he allows the God of peace to show up.

Hebrews 12, you can read from verse 14,

#### **Hebrews 12:14**

**14. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**

Now **follow peace with all men, and holiness.**

Now, when we see this, again he says people when we talk about holiness in this case, please again, you need to read this in context. It has to be contextual. Don't forget that we said in 1 Thessalonians Chapter 5, he says and the God of peace shall sanctify you wholly, completely, may your spirit, your soul, your body be kept blameless. Am just saying it should not be in your spirit, it will come out in your soul, your mind, your will, emotions reflect in your body. He said the reason I tell you is I want a complete process. I don't want something to be locked up. I want the peace of God to show up in your mind, so that the God of peace shall show up in your body.

I will say that again. I want that peace you have with God when you gave your life to Christ in the spirit, I want it to show up in your mind. How? I want the peace of God to guard your heart and mind and also I want you to go beyond that. That is why he says in what you do, that is Philippians 4:8 so that it will show up in your body. He says, am praying... have you noticed that he says here, follow peace with all men and with holiness. I want whatever is in your spirit to be a complete reflection in your soul, in your mind and in your body.

See what he says next.

**without which no man shall see the lord.**

Even though this is not what we are focusing on today, but I think is a good point to raise this issue.

**and no man shall see the Lord.**

I know people think is about unless you dress in a certain way or talk in a particular way or act holy, you will not be able to see God. Well, if that is the case, then nobody will be born again. Can we say that to you? Because the Bible say while we are yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly. There is nothing you can do, there is nothing anybody can do. There is no sinners on this planet at the moment that can put God up.

In fact, the Bible says, we never deserve the goodness of God. We are still stark sinners but yet Christ died for the ungodly. So are you simply saying that if you saw God show up in coming to you in salvation even though you were dirty and rotten, are you now saying that you then need to have a level of as it were, I call it a type of holiness so that you can see God? Well, that will be contradictory to the scripture. How did I know that?

Look at the next verse,

What does he says in the next verse?

**15. Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;**

Now, have you seen he said follow peace with all men? He was talking about what you do with all men. So when he says no man shall see the Lord. He says, unless you follow peace with all men. Unless you are at peace with all men, it will be hard for those men to see the Lord in you. I mean, this is not how to interpret because people just interpret that out of context. If you don't believe what that means, go to the next verse. Again, he's saying...

Look at the next verse,

**15. Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;**

He's talking about how you help others. Can you see that? So when he says follow peace with all men and holiness if you don't, what happens is they will not see the Lord in your actions. They will not see the Lord in your attitude. They will not see the Lord in what you are doing. He is not talking about you seeing the Lord. He is talking

about those men I told you to follow peace with. If you don't follow peace with them, they will not be able to see the Lord in you. You will not be a good testimony to them. That is what he is talking about.

The other part of the things was saying less any root of bitterness springing up trouble you and thereby many be defiled.

He is talking about others. He is not talking about God being put off because you are not hundred percent perfectly holy. Because I think we need to clarify that so that we don't take the scriptures out of context.

Now, again, we are going somewhere, I just had to digress on that. So that we don't misinterpret that kind of scriptures.

So when people says without holiness no man shall see the Lord. You are not quoting that scripture for the Lord, you are quoting that scriptures for people. If you don't follow peace with them, if you are at war with them, how can they see the Lord in you? So that is what that means. But again that is not our focus.

So what is the next verse says?

Now, see the reason why he says you need to actually walk in peace? Why you need to get a point where you are thinking of the implication of the gospel, where you are falling apart, where you are actively thinking and where you are not allowing anxiety to take hold of your life, what does he says next?

He said,

**“follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord, looking diligently less any man fail of the grace of God, less any root of bitterness springing up trouble you and thereby many be defiled.”**

You can see what he is simply saying here that, there is something that we do, there is a peace of God that reigns in your heart that allows the God of peace to show up in your circumstances that has effect even on people around you. It causes changes in the lives of people. It causes shift in people around you.

So we can see then, that peace as it were, is not just to protect you, it's meant to cause influence around you. So he is saying if you follow peace with all men and with holiness. What is going happen is, men will see the glory and the power of God in your life and what happen is? You are able to even help people, you are able to cause changes around your life. So here we see this at work again.

Now, can you read that verse 15 again please?

**15. Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;**

So he is saying that if we are working in this peace, it will even guarantee that others around us will not fail to access God's grace for their own destiny. They will not fail to access the goodness of God for their own lives. If we actually... so we can see the God of peace showing up through our own flesh. Through our own lives and influencing people all around us. This is what peace does. This is when the God of peace shows up and actually influences not just things, not just circumstances even people around us. And that is what we see there.

Now, go on please,

**15. ... lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;**

Could it be then the reason why people are defile around us, the reason why people are polluted around us, could it be then is because the God of peace is not having room and opportunity to show up himself?

So we are not materialistic here, we are not just limiting to circumstances, we are not limiting to things. We have to say it has to affect people. It could be the reason why people are bitter or polluted and people are being defiled around us, is because the God of peace is not being giving the opportunity to show up himself in our situation. And the God of peace won't show up unless we have the peace of God.

Can you see? Verse 7 of Philippians 4 says and the peace of God shall guard your heart and mind and verse 9 says and the God of peace shall be with you.

And that is what we see there.

Yes, is good that you brought that verse up, because verse 14 has been mostly generally misquoted and out of context, people have really misinterpreted it. They feel like no man see the Lord, that you will not even get to see God in your situation.

Some have even actually interpreted it that, you will not be able to make it to heaven, you will not be able to see God and that you will not see God there, because of this. But they are not being mischievous, they are just really being... even from the verse 14, he was talking about following peace with all men. They are going to look at it in context. That is the thing. No body giving an extraneous interpretation into this and just be simple, just be honest. We don't want you to be dishonest. Just looking at it, following peace with all men. He is talking about our relationship with men and even beyond those verse, verse 14, 15 was still talking about. If you don't get these things

sorted, if you don't have the hold, the grip on these things, others will be defiled, there will be root of bitterness among people and many be defiled. Because no man can see the Lord in you. If you don't have a good grip on these, and walking on this, and this is about relationship and this is this. If you are not in charge of this and see this and make sure, that you follow this. You follow peace, you follow holiness with men, then people will be defiled. No man will be able to see the Lord. People will be defiled and everything.

So he is just calling you to just being honest. That is what I can see. Be honest with this verse. Be honest with the Word of God and no matter how, whether it does not suit your own interpretation, it does not suit your own personal philosophy, because some people are really comfortable with some things and so they look for scriptures that suit it. And if they don't find scriptures that suit it, they mangle everyone to suit their own personal philosophy.

But we are calling you to be honest with God's Word and see that verse 14 and 15 how it is. If you don't want to cause defilement, if you don't want to cut people off from the Lord. No man can see the Lord in you, that is what he is talking about. We are calling you to that process of peace so that people will not be defiled. That root of bitterness, because if you don't have a good grip of this that root of bitterness, and defile many and so you are cutting people off from the Lord.

Again we have gone a step further to tell you that beyond peace, being our instrument of defense and offense, beyond peace being the resultant effect of what happened in our environment. Again, it influences people. Don't be selfish, that is what we are saying. Don't be selfish with your life.

The reason why you need to have a good grip of what we are discussing about is, if you say oh! I don't care about what happened to men and circumstance, everything might go hurry and because I chose to live that way, let my circumstance reflect what is inside of me, I don't care, then what about others? Do you want to cut people off by your choice of lifestyle? And that is what he (Hebrews 12) was saying. Please don't do that. Don't let the root of bitterness spring up in you, follow peace with holiness with all men, so that you will not cut people off from the Lord.

So you can see that this peace that we are talking about is multifaceted. You have to understand that is something you have to know, it is the armor, I hope you will not forget that. That is how we started from Ephesians 6 and an instrument of our defense. We must put this on all the time. We have that preparation of the gospel of peace, it's part of our outfits. Because we see some people, this is what they should be concern about, but people are just concern about somebody dress like this or



something when we have the outfit in Ephesians Chapter 6, they are not talking about that. If you are really about the dress police or fashion police or what people should wear or what people should wear or cultural police, we should know how the kingdom culture is. This is what we should protect, this is what we should talk about. Do we have the outfit? Do we have our feet shod with this kind of peace? The peace of the Lord. There is a way of going about it.

And we do understand that we shared today, we do understand that you want God to show up in your situation. You want God to come and crush because that is what some people, they really understand that, they really know that they needed God to come into their situation to crush the work of the devil, to bruise the work of the devil. So we are telling you how you go about it, the New Testament way of going about it. It's about when you are in peace, you have the peace of God, you have that peace that is inside of you to come out and change what is outside of you. You have the peace of God and the God of peace shall be with you.

The God of peace will show up, so there are different way of people going about it, people actually desire God of peace showing up. You need the peace of God first, but they go about it, they feel they can pray it... you can't pray it sorry! They feel like they can do some other things apart from this process. They feel like, ok, they really want, they understood the fact that they needed the God of peace to come to crush, they understood the part and so they are going about to say any other method to make the God of peace show up. Prayer, offering, they can outgive, do any other things to make God of peace to come and show up. They want to even crush it themselves and all those things.

But we find out that today the way to go about it is about having that peace of God in you and let that peace show forth in the creature, everything around you, every of those things that is bondage with you. So let that peace of God in you come out and reflect and change what is around you. Then you see that God of peace. It's just so simple. It's really so simple.

So today we are relieving you of unnecessary burden. We are relieving you of unnecessary task. So why putting this on yourself of going about it. The right way of going about it is about letting that peace of God that we are talking about in Ephesians 6, you have this armor of the peace of God and let it change your environment. Let it change that circumstance. Don't let that circumstance change you. That is why anxiety is when circumstances change your state. Don't let it creep inside of you and change you. And we have the evidence in Psalms Chapter 1, we have the evidence in Genesis Chapter 3 whichever way. is either you allow that thing to change your

environment and things start blossoming or you allow what is inside to go to the environment and causing the curse of the ground like Adam. So the choice is actually yours.

And again, we are being encourage today not to be selfish so that we will not cut people off from the Lord. This peace is beyond you. So you have to stand in for the other people around so that you will not cut people...

I don't know, we cannot overstress this and emphasized this. So I just hope that you've gotten what we are sharing this morning.

Now, viewers let us go quickly to Romans Chapter 12 verse 17.

### **Romans 12:17**

**17. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.**

**18. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.**

If you check some other translation, it says as much as it lies on your angle, on your side, live peaceably with all men.

See! that statement is something we want to make sure we make before we leave today. He says, do that which is within your own power. He says, the peace of God is what you can have. You might not be able to deal with the circumstances. The circumstances might be way beyond your own jurisdiction. But something is within your jurisdiction, the peace of God. You can do that, you can have that.

And Philippians 4:6 tells us the specific steps on things to take to have that peace of God. He says listen, he says you can do something, you can have the peace of God.

Now, see what he says,

**19. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.**

He says why are you stress out about life trying to solve the situation.

He says

**but rather give place to wrath**

Give room for the God of peace. Can you see?

So it means the reason mostly why the God of peace is not showing up to crush things is men are not giving him a place. He says give place. Again, we repeat,

Philippians 4:6 says if you have the peace of God, that is verse 6, verse 7 says you think and act on these good reports, think on these things. He said, things that you learnt of me. These are things that you do and he says and the God of peace shall be with you. So here he is saying, give room for the God of peace to show up.

What is the next thing he says then?

**for it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.**

I am the God of peace I will show up, but give place for me, give room. Give place for him.

And he says... if you look at the next verse,

**20. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.**

He is simply saying you can cause a change in somebody else's life. You can create changes in your environment. But he says you need to give place to the God of peace to show up. Because ultimately, what surrounds you will reflect what is... if you are confused, confusion will carry on around you. But if you have peace, your environment will come under the influence of the God of peace.

And as we close. Let me close with what Jesus said, when he was rebuking the wind. Have you noticed when they were going to the other side, when he told disciples let's go over to the other side. And the Bible says when they say you care not that we perish. Jesus made a statement. I want you to watch the strategy of Jesus. The Bible says he rebuked the wind and he spoke to the sea and he says peace be still.

We've seen Christians will rebuke this and rebuke that and we cast down this one, and we destroy that one but if you do it's irrelevant what you do, if the sea itself is not in peace. What happens is even if the wind is gone, the sea will still be confused. This is why it's a strategy of the spirit that what is much more important is that we understand that is one thing to rebuke the wind, is a whole different thing for peace to be within the sea. That is why Christ did both, not one or the other. He rebuked the wind, but he also spoke to the sea because the sea needs to listen as well that he has to be at peace, if not he will be susceptible to whatever the enemy is bringing.

So today in conclusion we are saying make peace for God, make room for the God of peace to show up by you being at peace. By you understanding what we are sharing today and walking in it, give place to the God of peace to come into situation. To come into people's life, so you make room for yourself and for others.

So if you are blessed by this, we want to say thank you for joining us today and we're praying that, we hope that you are going to make room for the God of peace by you being at peace.

And as you go about this week, I want you to show the understanding that you understand what we are sharing today.

So you can hit us back with your comments, questions, clarification and you can share this. We will like you to share it. We will like you to go to our page to follow, not even to view first. Follow and share and invite, and share this with your other contacts.

For those who are asking for downloads, MP3 we are working on it, we trust the Lord that we will be able to serve it, on every place, on every way the people want to have this message.

So till we see you next week Saturday 7pm UK time as we continue this series.

We want to say as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him. Amen

Bye!!