

**Sunday, 04 November 2007**

**Philippians 4 : 4-7**

**Php 4:4-7** May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: rejoice! Show a gentle attitude toward everyone. The Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart. And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus.

## **Trust in God!**

This is an incredible scripture that we have heard so often. Rejoice in the Lord – Always! But do we really know what the circumstances were in Paul's life when he wrote these words? Paul was sitting in prison, soon to be tried for his life. In these circumstances he is not only rejoicing, but also prompting us to rejoice, always! This is a testimony of Paul's faith in the promise of God to always be with him. He does not fear what may come, for everything is in God's hands. He prompts others to show a gentle spirit to others, regardless of how they may be treating you. We have to show the love that was taught by Jesus to everybody. We know the truth, God is with us, and we have nothing to fear. We are called to proclaim the Gospel, and as Martin Luther has said: "*In all things and in all circumstances, we have to proclaim the Gospel of Christ, if necessary, use words*". Our attitude towards others, even those who are hurting us, should always show whom our God is, and that we are living in His love and grace.

In this scripture we hear that the Lord is coming soon, and therefore we don't have to worry about anything. It's often true that we loose focus on this promise. We forget that we are working towards reaching a goal. We forget that our life is a race, and Jesus is at the end, waiting for us. We see everything going on around us, and life becomes a constant fight for survival. Our goal becomes focused on getting through our problems, and making it to the next day. In doing so, we forget that we have a real goal to work for. We forget that Jesus is coming soon. Will we be found doing worldly things, or running the race with our eyes set on Him? We truly don't have to worry. God is with us, and He will look after us, and give us what we need in order to complete our race.

Instead of anxiety, just lay your burdens and problems before God, and trust Him to do all things well. He will assist you in all you may need. That is what a Father-God will do. And we should not pray to God with a spirit of complaining, and moaning about everything that is going wrong, but with a thankful spirit. This we can do, because we know that He will assist us, and take care of all our needs. We know this, because we have seen His hand in our lives before, we received His promise that He will take care of us, and once again, we are reminded that He will be there for us. Thus, we can talk to our Saviour, sharing our burdens with Him, and do so with a thankful Spirit, as we know that He will take care of us.

If we truly have this attitude and view on life, we will experience the peace of the Lord, which will go above any understanding. We will live our lives knowing who is really in charge, and instead of trying to do everything for ourselves, we will trust in God for our daily needs. Let our lives bare witness to this truth that we believe.

\* Should you wish to write me, and are in need of someone who would listen and pray with you... Please do. [david@davidniebuhr.com](mailto:david@davidniebuhr.com)

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