

## THANKSGIVING PEACE

-PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7--

### INTRODUCTION:

This world that we live in gives us plenty of things to worry about. For many just the fact that we are moving into the winter holiday season is enough to make us anxious. For some it may be this pandemic with no end in sight that may keep you up at night. For some it is the political situation that our nation is in that causes them to worry and be anxious about the future. For some it is the circumstances they are in or their home life that has them worried. Others worry because of economic problems and the rising cost of everything. Everyone has something that causes them to worry and be at a loss as to what to do. Is there no peace, no freedom from anxiousness? This morning we are going to look at a principle given to us by the apostle Paul so that we can experience peace, not the kind of peace the world might try to offer us, but a supernatural peace that allows us to rest in our Savior's arms knowing that He cares and is in control.

- I. REJOICE IN THE LORD (Philippians 4:4)
  - a. Paul begins his principle for \_\_\_\_\_ with a command to rejoice in the Lord always. (Acts 16:25; Galatians 5:22; Romans 8:28)
  - b. It was completely proper for Paul to exhort the Philippian believers to \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord always, because joy should be encouraged and developed in our lives. (Philippians 4:8)
- II. BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS (Philippians 4:5)
  - a. Paul goes on to tell us to make our inward joy seen in outward \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Graciousness with \_\_\_\_\_ might be the best way to translate it, and we are to let this be known to all people.
  - c. Paul qualifies this truth of showing graciousness with humility to all, by reminding us that the Lord is \_\_\_\_\_, or literally "at hand."

### III. PRAY WITH THANKSGIVING (Philippians 4:6)

- a. He begins this next part by telling us to be \_\_\_\_\_ for nothing.
- b. Paul gives us the cure for worry, he tells us how we can be anxious about nothing. The cure for worry is \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. The word translated prayer is a word that carries the idea of \_\_\_\_\_, devotion, and worship.
- d. The second word that Paul uses in this verse for prayer is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. After adoration and supplication comes appreciation, or \_\_\_\_\_.

### IV. THE RESULT: GUARDED PEACE (Philippians 4:7)

- a. When we rejoice in the Lord always, when we practice graciousness in humility to all we come in contact with and we bring everything to God in prayer with thanksgiving, the result is \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. This is not the peace \_\_\_\_\_ God that we received when we were justified, that peace was given when our sins were forgiven through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- c. Paul says that this peace of God surpasses all \_\_\_\_\_.

### CONCLUSION:

As we enter into another holiday season, as we look at our world crumbling around us, as it seems there is no end to this pandemic, as our circumstances seem overwhelming, and those anxious thoughts begin to well up in our hearts and minds, stop and rejoice in the Lord always, reach out in humble graciousness to those around you and lift up your heart in prayer to the Lord with thanksgiving and the peace of God will invade your heart and mind and guard them against the anxiety of the circumstances with which you are faced.

This peace truly is supernatural and unfathomable and the most wonderful feeling of trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ. People will see that there is something different about you because you will be calm in the midst of a storms in your life. Happy Thanksgiving!