

Everyone Room in the House

It's usually quite evident when a space hasn't been occupied for some time... whether it's a home or a shed or a shooting house. The same applies to life... as Paul would say, be filled with the Holy Spirit and let the word of Christ dwell richly within every aspect of you.

It's the INFLOW and OVERFLOW of both the Spirit of God and the Sense of God's word that not only encourages and corrects us but instructs us in the ways of righteousness. His very presence in us, and a growing knowledge of Jesus, is the fountainhead that everything for kingdom life, family, and fruitfulness flows.

Both Colossians 3:16 and Ephesians 5:18 teach us about the irreplaceable importance of His Scriptures and His Spirit in our lives.

For a continuous filling of the Spirit, and letting the Word of Christ dwelling richly within us... not a mere skirting around them will be used by God to make kingdom-size differences in our lives.

It's when the Spirit is giving unction, and the Scriptures are providing understanding to us, by faith, there can ONLY be something marvelous and beautiful that can come out of that divine union.

Thank You, Jesus

One gives us the understanding we need to live, the other gives us the unction or power to live in that understanding, and we need both.

And I tell you, you can't live this life and skirt the word of God, and expect anything different than what you already have.

And some of you are skirting the word and you've never jumped in headfirst. I pray that doesn't describe you. And, if it does, and your life has been a roller coaster, with a lot of ups and downs, and you find yourself going right back to where you've always been, there's a likelihood that you've been skirting the word but have never seriously jumped into it and let it dwell richly in you.

And I encourage you, today, to make a commitment that you are going to get in the word of God. And you're gonna learn it, and you're gonna want to know it and you can ask God to teach you it and you want it to dwell richly, to have full reign in your life, so that you're not just skirting it, but you're jumping into it. And then watch the difference that it makes in your life. Hey, it's a lifetime investment, you can't expect things to be radically transformed, in every dynamic of your life today, because you got in the word of God, yesterday. No, you commit that you're giving your life to know

Him and make him known. And He must teach you and fill you and influence you. And you're not going to skirt it no more, but you're getting in it.

Can you give me a few minutes? I believe this can help you. What I'm sharing about Isaiah 32 (and the pictured flow chart) can explain a lot of things and be a great encouragement to you today and many days ahead. It should be worth your time.

Isaiah 32 is all about transformation... or I should qualify that and say, it's all about transforming grace in the lives of those who have and are being transformed by it. Jesus transforms and changes all that He touches with His grace. Isaiah 32 is a testament to the far-reaching work of His redeeming grace and the effect of righteousness upon those who have trusted their redeeming King. So, from verse one to the close of the chapter we want to see Jesus and the wondrous work He has accomplished in the hearts and heads, and hands of His disciples.

PEACE..one of my favorite subjects and one of my favorite passages in all of Scripture is Isaiah 26:3.

"Thou will keep him (me) in perfect peace, (when) whose (my) mind is stayed on Thee because he (I) trust in Thee" (Isaiah 26:3).

Notice: This is not what we do but what the Father does when we simply TRUST Him. He keeps us in perfect peace when we trust Him. We don't achieve peace but He gives us peace when we take Him at his word... He is the peace GIVER and KEEPER.

Faith, which is the result of God's grace, positions us UNDER the FLOW of His grace that it can OVERFLOW into His righteousness. How can I know when I'm trusting Him? When my mind is fixed upon Him, and my heart is under the flow of His word, I have peace knowing I'm resting in Him more than relying upon myself.

In Isaiah 32:17 God helps us understand how this happens. Righteousness has one "quest or work" and the "quality or effect" of its divine work will produce its AIM in the lives of those who take God at His word. He does this by creating a confident and steadfast spirit in us when we trust Him. Listen to me... like peace, righteousness is not something we do, it's Someone we believe in and something He works within us.

Here it is, when we TRUST the Lord, He counts our trust in Him and His word as righteousness. And when we trust Him, He imputes His righteousness to us... it, His imputed righteousness, goes to WORK in us to produce God's peace in us. How does His righteousness do this? It SERVES us and supplies to us a quiet (undisturbed spirit) and steadfast confidence in following God's faithfulness

and trustworthy word. What's the result? His grace is a gift of peace. Thanks be unto God!

"Great peace have those who love Your word, and nothing causes them to stumble" (Psalm 119:165).

Whereas fear and fretting are just the opposite. Fear is the NATURAL response of the flesh, but peace is the SUPERNATURAL product of imputed righteousness, which is the fruit of grace-rooted faith. Fear is the response to what the flesh sees and frets over, and faith is the SUPERNATURAL response to what we can't see naturally, but can supernaturally see what God sees, therefore, we are convinced and persuaded to take possession of what He has shown us.

Let's dissect this biblically: follow with me and it will help you understand this illustrated flow chart and why or why not you're experiencing the peace of God.

"And the WORK of righteousness shall be PEACE; and the EFFECT of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever" (Isaiah 32:17).

PEACE is the product of righteousness, righteousness is the product of faith and faith is the product of grace.

Righteousness is imputed to an individual when he, by faith, takes God at His word. Righteousness then goes to "work," as its "chief aim," to produce peace in the life of those who trust God and His commitment to them.

And seeing that its AIM or QUEST is to produce peace, righteousness starts to "serve" or "effect" the man or woman of faith to bring them to a place where they have "a settled & steadfast confidence" as they trust the word God has delivered to them. The words "quietness" and "assurance" and "forever" what do they mean? They speak of a QUALITY of service that has the aim to produce the desired effect.

"Forever" speaks... of the biblical reality that this is how righteousness will work in all generations. It's not saying that once you have this settled steadfast confidence you will have it forever. It's saying that righteousness works like this forever. Therefore PEACE will continually be dependent upon trusting the Lord as Isaiah 26:3 teaches. Our minds are stayed upon the Lord when we trust Him, and as we trust Him... He, the peace Giver and Keeper, keeps us in perfect peace because He imputes righteousness unto us.

"Quietness" speaks of someone who is the opposite of being unsettled or disturbed from a specific

objective or course, and therefore, it speaks of someone that is settled and not moved off course.

"Assurance" speaks of someone secure and confident. The idea is that of someone holding steadfast and not wavering in confidence and hope.

A settled and steadfast confidence is the quality of service that righteousness provides that can produce peace in the hearts and minds of those who trust the Lord. This is all accomplished, regardless of the difficulty of their course (mission), surroundings (culture), or circumstances (conditions) they may face. Why? Their eyes are fixed on Jesus so they can run the race that He sets before them.

This is what righteousness produces and not the righteous. Glory... they simply trust and obey!

"Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the RACE that is set before us, looking to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the JOY that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1-2)

The "JOY" and the "RACE" are speaking of the course or the will of God for our lives. The joy set before Jesus was "His race" "His course" or "the will of the Father" designed specifically for Him. Your race is the joy that will be set before you or as Paul called it... "that I may finish my course" (Acts 20:24) and (2 Tim. 4:7). When we trust and obey...God sees to it that we are settled and steadfast with a confidence that can't be shaken, yep, we'll have perfect peace on the course He's assigned for us to run.

The challenge goes back to the seeking... Too often, in our zeal to KNOW God's will, we can find ourselves seeking His will but neglecting to seek Him. The problem with this is the fact that His will can't be FULLY known or understood or enjoyed WITHOUT His presence and peace. And the INDICATOR we've taken our eyes off of Him and placed them upon ANYTHING else, INCLUDING even His will, will always be an unsettled and frustrated spirit. Why? God chastens those that He loves.

This unsettled spirit is a gift... a gift of His unfailing love that reveals we've taken our eyes off of Jesus. And He uses the absence of His peace to let us know that the eyes of our faith are not fixed on Him and we're drifting off the race He's given us to run (Hebrews 12:1-5; Isaiah 26:3; Colossians 3:15).

Peace, the very opposite of an unsettled and frustrated spirit, is what God described as a

"whistleblower" or referee/arbitrator that He's assigned to RULE in our hearts. And, as with an official at a basketball game, peace "blows the whistle" on our lives when we've "broken" faith in the Lord. Broken faith is when we're putting something else, even something as good as God's will, before seeking Him first, and other things have our attention and not the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 6:33; Isaiah 26:3).

I imagine you have experienced this before... we all have. I've been there, too, and have counseled many church leaders and servants who found themselves frustrated and unsettled, fretting about where they were, yet they wanted to know, more than anything, God's will for their lives. But the Lord has made it so... that when we seek Him, first, He Shepherds and feeds and leads us to the assignments He's authorized us to walk in while giving us His peace to embrace and enjoy Him, His presence, favor, and purpose throughout the journey.

I encourage you, be a soul winner and disciple-maker... who redeems the time by being filled with the Spirit (you need unction from on high) and let the words of Christ dwell in you richly (you also need understanding from on high). You need wisdom, discernment, and discretion to redeem the time and they only come from Him and His truth (Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3). This happens out of an overflow of following and learning from Jesus and being intentional and ready to declare Jesus to a hostile world.

#nestingwithjesus #colossians #colossians3 #colossians3and15 #colossians3and15thru17
#ephesians5and18 #isaiah32 #grace #faith #righteousness #peace #whistleblower
#peacegiverandkeeper #isaiah26and3 #isaiah32and17 #psalm119and165
#gracefaithrighteousnesspeaceflowchart #gracerootedfaith #imputedrighteousness
#theworkofrighteousness #theeffect #questandqualityofrighteousness #perfectpeace
#truthimpactsdotcom