

Peace All The Day

By: Pastor Ronald Marr

“There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works ... Let us labor, therefore, (make haste or apply ourselves) to enter into his rest.”
- Hebrews 4:9-11

We enter more readily into seeking the Lord in the quiet time if we have first been at rest or peace in Him in the hours before.

Most of us are naturally hurried. We are frequently impatient. We are rarely as gentle, meek, loving, and kind as we ought to be. Rarely are we at peace and rest in the Lord in any practical sense. In other words, we are often in a fuss ‘n furor.

On the other hand:

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering (patience), gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.”
-Galatians 5:22, 23

As we seek the Lord, He will show us our lack and our need of these gracious attitudes. He will be seeking to form them in us. And He will be showing us the difficulty we put in the way of our entering His presence when we evidence the contrary attitudes all the day long.

We will want both to labor to enter into this kind of new attitude and to cease from our own works (labor).

We will want to recognize that impatient un-

Overcoming Frustration

By: Pastor Ronald Marr

We wonder why we have so much difficulty seeking the Lord in our prayer times.

This morning I was frustrated in seeking after the Lord for two hours!

Then I sang, “Now none but Christ can satisfy ...”

Immediately there was a breakthrough and the tears flowed.

Why do we have such difficulty?

Three reasons come to mind.

As soon as we leave the place of prayer our attention is absorbed by the concerns of time and space. Gone is the preoccupation with the Lord that has consumed our attention.

We allow ourselves to be pressed with the rush of life that leaves little room for God.

We get angry at all the things, people, and circumstances that seem to be against us. Too often our anger is even directed beyond these to God Himself, leaving us in a state of unhappy rebellion. When we next return to the place of prayer, we need to confess and forsake this rebellion. Then our attention must be redirected to the Lord. We need to read or quote worship-filled scripture, books, and hymns by those who are or were seekers too. Or listen to my Psalms for Worship audio.

But, we mustn't wait so long to do something about the problem.

We need to learn to take the Lord with us into the

Oh to Seek God Wholly Holy

By: Pastor Ronald Marr

Oh, that there were words to express my holy longings for God.

Oh, that my longings for God were entirely holy and pure.

But, I give thanks and rejoice that He accepts my longings as though they were untainted by selfishness and sin.

My pen cannot be still though my tongue is silent in the presence of divine perfection.

Just to seek God is my greatest joy.

When I stop seeking, longing, desiring God, life is one long pain. Oh, may I never again be long without the joy of seeking Him.

To say death would be better would be to speak as a fool. For what could be so very undesirable about mere physical death? It will simply usher me into the perfect perfection of all things in limitless presence, and complete and constant communion with the God I long for ... and which I find but so poorly here.

Surely the deprivation I feel, when robbed of the sense of seeking God, is an infinitesimally small taste of what hell is for those damned to be deprived forever of God and all that is good.

May this knowledge drive me to seek constantly to bring the lost to the Savior and life eternal.

Oh, my Lord, teach me, with Your Spirit, to woo and win them to You.

While seeking for God is at times such joy, it is also touched with its own unique brand of pain, as it seems everything in this life on earth must be. But, if pain, it is surely pain of the most delightful kind.

This pain is a reminder, not only that nothing here is complete, perfect, without fault or flaw, but that our God alone is perfect beyond limitation. Our seeking Him here is but a prelude to our finding Him entire over there.

Our seeking Him here, to be complete, must be mixed, as all else godly must be, with resting. Just to rest in God may be even more joy than is seeking Him ... but only if combined with seeking. For resting may be only physical and emotional, rather than spiritual, if not accompanied by seeking ... and perhaps the reverse as well. So, let rest be mixed with seeking. Let seeking be mixed with resting ... and the object of both be God alone.

Lord, Thou art Life, though I be dead; Love's Fire Thou art, however cold I be: Nor heaven have I, nor place to lay my head, Nor home, but Thee.

*Write to us and request more copies to share.
Oh to Seek God Wholly Holy*

*Transformed Living Messages by Pastor Marr
ChristLife
PO Box 1033, Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Ph: (716) 622-7320
E-mail: Christlife@Christ-like.net
Visit us at www.Christ-like.net*

day, find time for Him during the day, confess and forsake our angry rebellion immediately that we recognize it, and frequently replace rush with rest.

Just slow down as often as you can. Make room for God in your life.

Then learn to go often throughout the day into the little chapel in your spirit where God especially resides with you in rest and peace.

Whenever there is a tug at your heart, a check in your conscience, or a break in the demands on your busy mind and body, stop. Be quiet before the Lord. Talk to Him. Wait on Him. Worship Him. Sing a hymn. Quote a scripture passage. Remind yourself that the Lord is totally trustworthy. Let your yearnings reach out to Him.

Come to a place of peace and rest in Him. Stay there quietly with Him for a time if you can.

If you can't find rest, don't worry about it. Don't give up this practice. Do whatever part of it you can.

The more of it you do, the less strange will seem seeking the Lord in the place of prayer when next you return there.

Jesus, I am resting, resting In the joy of what Thou art. -Jean Sophia Piggott

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kindness displeases our God and makes it difficult to seek the Lord and enter into His presence.

We will want to remind ourselves often that hurried fuss 'n furor contribute to our frequent display of bad temper or unhealthy attitudes.

We will want to labor to enter into His rest by actively, purposely slowing down, being willing to do less if necessary ... Also by being sacrificially willing to be less in charge, less in need of straightening out things and people, less in need of having to have things our way.

We will want to recognize that we can show we've ceased from our own works by depending on the Lord to change these attitudes. We can deliberately, immediately on the spot, relax, let go, pray and trust God to care for the situation even enabling us to respond more appropriately.

Prepare yourself to seek the Lord and enter His presence by learning to graciously live more nearly all the day in His peace.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." -Isaiah 26:3

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