Spirit of Grace Herald

The Ministry of Dennis & Benedicta Pollock

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Spirit of Grace Ministries

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NO PEACE Or MUCH PEACE

In Isaiah we read, "**The wicked are like the troubled sea when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There's no peace, says my God, for the wicked**." (Isaiah 57:20-21). According to the prophet, wicked, ungodly people, people who have no use for God in their lives, are like water during a storm, which is constantly muddy and stirred up. They have no peace.



Ungodly, secular people can have a lot and be a lot. They can make plenty of money, have many friends, achieve great success, and be popular. They can also be famous. But the one thing they cannot have is peace. There is no peace, says Isaiah, for the wicked.

Now let's move over to the New Testament and see what Jesus promises to those who will believe in Him and follow Him. Jesus says:

> **Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14:27)**

At this point, Jesus is about to go to the cross and die for the sins of the world. He knows He will not be with His disciples much longer. But He leaves something behind for them. He is giving them the gift of peace. He tells them not to be troubled or afraid. His peace will be with them. No reason for worry.

Why the Ungodly Have no Peace

Let's think about why it is that people who are completely secular and pay no attention to God do not have peace, and why people who love Jesus and abide in Him do have peace. One reason is simple enough. If you go through this life without regard for God and uncertain as to whether He even exists, then you must believe that when you die, that's the end of you. And the older you get, the more dismal things become.

When you're in your 20s, it's easy to ignore the fact that you're going to eventually die. You have so many years ahead of you; at least that's what you think, and it just feels like you're going to be on this earth for a good, long time. No need to worry about or even think about death and aging. When you're in your 50s, you're much more aware that you're getting closer to the end. And when you reach your seventies, the cruel reality of your own mortality is staring you in the face constantly.

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But when followers of Christ grow older, they are convinced that they are drawing nearer to graduation and translation into a new and far superior life. If you talk to a college student who's been through a lot of hard work at college, studying like crazy, taking exams, writing papers, and burning the midnight oil, and now he's only weeks away from graduation, and you ask, "Are you sad that you're going to graduate?" chances are, he's not going to be sad at all. He's going to be thrilled that his days of long hours of study and late nights are coming to an end. Jesus told us, "**In this world you will have tribulation**," but He never said, "In heaven you will have constant struggles and trouble." It generates a tremendous amount of peace knowing that we will live forever with God in heaven after this life of turmoil, fears, struggles, and hard work.

But ultimately, the greatest sense of peace is what we find in Romans 5, where the Bible says "**Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ**." Not peace because we are in a season in which we are currently not in conflict with anyone. Not peace because we just came into some money or we got a better job, but peace with God because we know we're forgiven, justified, children of God through Jesus, and all is well.

Redeem the Time: Our Audio Podcasts



When I was a child, the only entertainment or news or music you could enjoy when you were in your car, was what was available through your AM radio. Or if you went for a walk you might take your "transistor radio" with you and listen to the baseball game or a music station. There were always plenty of commercials but they were a small price to pay to enjoy the latest cutting edge technology.

Today radios have fallen on hard times. Entertainment while on the go has transformed to satellite stations and podcasts. And for the last couple of years, Benedicta and I have been producing audio podcasts. We record our morning Bible studies and make them available through podcast platforms such as YouTube, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and others. The name of this podcasts (which is important for searching purposes) is "Discover the Word with Den and Ben."



While we also produce video Bible studies on YouTube, the nice thing about our audio podcasts is that you can enjoy them and redeem those lonely minutes and hours in your car by simply listening to them—there's nothing to watch! Benedicta and I invite you into our home for our morning Bible studies. You'll be blessed!

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