

INSPIRED 2GO

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

BY PASTOR WALE AFELUMO

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: PEACE

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCE

Mark 4:35-41

ADDITIONAL STUDY

Romans 12:18

Isaiah 26:3

Philippians 4:6-7

TO DO

Invite the Holy Spirit into your heart today, ask Him to show up in your storm and release His presence into any strained relationship— let Him bring rest, quietness, and make everything 'one' again.

*Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. - **Mark4:39***

The Amplified Bible says in Colossians 3:15, "Let the peace of Christ [the inner calm of one who walks daily with Him] be the controlling factor in your hearts [deciding and settling questions that arise]. To this peace indeed you were called as members in one body [of believers] ..." Peace is another fruit of the Spirit believers are to manifest – "To this peace indeed you were called..." This is peace that comes from intimacy with God, it does not come from the world; actually the events and vicissitudes of this world try to take it from us, our relationships often challenge it, bad news try to kill it, anxiety about tomorrow would soon expunge it, and danger also calls it to test.

Bible peace (Greek – 'Eirene') is quietness, it is rest and it means to 'set at one again.' This means that the absence of peace sets the heart in a frenzy of thoughts and agitation, but when peace returns, the heart is brought to the place of oneness. Relationships do pull or break apart, but when peace comes, oneness is restored. Situations do go awry, but when peace comes, they are brought to a place of rest.

Jesus epitomizes in our text, one in Whom the fruit of peace is in full bloom, ripe and ready to be plucked (if you permit me to so say). He was asleep in the midst of a storm. Others in the same situation with him panicked and cried out for fear of death, but Jesus slept through it. There was a calm assurance within Him that all was and would be well. See, peace does not mean the absence of storms but serenity in the storm, an assurance of God's backing. When Jesus was 'forced' to wake up by His disciples, He simply commanded the sea to be at peace. What did He do? He imposed the peace within upon the storm without. Paul said in Colossians 3:15 that this inner calm should be a controlling factor in your heart, deciding and settling questions or circumstances that arise.

Such peace comes from a heart that is stayed or fixed on God; which knows that if God is in control, winds will cease and storms will calm down. When it fills our hearts, we can superimpose it on agitations in our relationships, in our families, in our marriages, etc., and expect calm all around.

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