



*the*  
**PEACE**  
*of*  
**GOD**

# How do I picture peace?

- Peace is when my health difficulties are gone.
- Peace is when I finally found a spouse.
- Peace is when I don't have to work so much.
- Peace is when I have more free time.
- Peace is when I have financial freedom.
- Peace is when things are calmer.



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# God's Promise:

"And the **peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"**

*Philippians 4.7*



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# The Peace of God:

- Shares an inseparable relationship with prayer – Phil. 4.6
- Seeks (and finds) opportunities for rejoicing – 4.4
  - We don't simply wait for opportunities to rejoice to spontaneously descend upon us; rather, we seek them!
  - Discouraged by two; encouraged by Clement!
- Can be made difficult by others – 4.2
  - Still could rejoice ("shared my struggle")



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# The Peace of God:

- Is not dependent on external circumstances – 4.11-13
  - Where is Paul? (1.12-14)
  - What is he experiencing? (4.14-17)
    - I can be a vessel of peace to others
- Finds its fulfillment in Jesus – 3.7-11
- Calls our attention forward – 3.13-14
- Is shared by a Christlike mind – 2.1-5



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# What is Peace?

It's not perfect health. *"The loss of all things"*

*Paul was a bachelor* It's not the perfect spouse.

It's not hours and hours of weekly free time. *"To live is Christ"*

It's not a bank account that allows for anything I want to do.

*"A gift...for my needs"*

It's not a quiet and placid environment.

*"My imprisonment"*

# The Peace of God:

"Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek **for the profit which increases to your account**. But I have received everything in full and **have an abundance**; I am **amply supplied**, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, **well-pleasing to God**."

(Philippians 4:17-18)

This peace of God is an inner assurance, regardless of external circumstance, that I have what I need and that God is well-pleased.