

All Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

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**PERFECT
PEACE
Mini-Book
Part 1**

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For more information visit our Web sites at:

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Introduction

In Isaiah 26:3,4 it says, **“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee...Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.”**

God is well able to do whatsoever He promises to do. The promises of God usually require something on our part as well. In these verses it requires that we keep our mind stayed upon the LORD, and that we trust in the LORD.

Why is that Christians have depression, fear, and other tormenting conditions in their mind? It seems they are not doing what we are told to do in Isaiah 26:3,4. With every promise of God, there is a condition. The conditions that apply to us are laid out in Isaiah 26:3,4, just as they are laid out in many other places in the Scriptures. If we meet the conditions that the Word of God has laid out for us we will have perfect peace in our minds.

Everything in this world has a beginning. Almost everything starts with a very small beginning. As an example, when a child is born into this world, it is not full grown, and it does not know or understand hardly anything. As it continues to live, it begins to grow and understand things. The longer it lives, the more it grows and the more it understands. It takes a long time for a child to grow and mature before it becomes an adult.

Knowing and understanding things helps us to grow and mature in whatsoever we do in this life. The more of the truth we know and understand the more mature we will become in our adulthood. Some people will grow physically, but not mentally. The size of a person does not make the person mature, it only makes the person larger in size.

Christians need to understand what God requires of them that they can grow and mature in life here on earth. According to the desires of our heart, we will succeed in life. If the desire of our heart is to know God and do the will of God in our lives, that is what will happen in our lives. If the desires of our heart are to gain in this world all that we want, that can also be accomplished. The difference between these two desires is that the first one will obtain for us eternity in heaven. Whereas the second one will obtain for us eternity in hell. To love the world and the things of this world is contrary to the will of God.

In 1 John 2:15-17 it says, **“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him...For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world...And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”** Knowing what it says in God’s inspired written Word is the beginning of success in whatsoever we do in life. Not knowing what it says in the inspired written Word of God brings defeat in this life and in eternity to come.

Just knowing what it says is only the beginning of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. We can know what it says, but if we do not do what it says, it will not benefit us in this life or eternity to come. Wisdom is the important thing when it comes to life, and living in this world and eternity to come. In Proverbs 4:7 it tells us, **“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.”** In Proverbs 16:16 it says, **“How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!”**

Knowledge is important, but knowledge without wisdom can destroy a persons life and

future. The world has a lot of knowledge of a lot of things. But the world in general is heading in the wrong direction. Those who love the world and the things of this world will end up spending eternity in hell with the Devil and those who follow him.

Christians should learn that the most important thing they can do in this life is to “**...love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment**” (Mark 12:30). Doing what Jesus said in the first commandment of our New Covenant will produce wisdom, knowledge and understanding. It will give us peace and joy in whatsoever we do.

The beginning of peace and joy in life comes from loving God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. When we love God the same way He loves us, we will experience perfect peace in everything we do in this life and in the life to come in eternity.

God is a personal God. God has His mind upon each individual person at all times. God wants to be involved in everything we do in this life and in the life to come in eternity. When we become involved in everything God is doing in our lives, we will have perfect peace at all times.

Perfect Peace

Perfect peace only comes from being perfected. To be perfected, we must do what we are told by the One who is perfect, that one is God. God is perfect, and God will perfect us if we do what God tells us to do. The best way to have clean water is to start with clean water and keep it clean. If you try to get clean water from dirty water, it is a long processes and is not easy to accomplish.

This is the way it is in life. If you start with something that is perfect, it is easier to obtain perfection. For Christians, God has given us the way, the truth, and the life, that we have that which is perfect, and so we can continue in that which is perfect. Wisdom, knowledge and understanding will help us to keep that which is perfect, perfect forever.

Before a person is born again, they are in this world in a physical body, born of the flesh. When we believe the Word of God, and receive Jesus Christ as our LORD and Savior, we become born again of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. This new life is a spiritual life, not a physical life. Therefore we are a new creature in Christ. Being a new creature in Christ, old things are passing away and the new is in the process of completion.

One of the greatest problems Christians face today is in knowing what the inspired written Word of God says. We have many different versions of the Bible to choose from. Most of these versions are written in the language we speak in the natural. Being that English is a predominate language, many Bibles are written in English. The inspired written Word was not written in English, therefore it needed to be translated from the original Hebrew, Greek, and Chaldees to English. In the process of translating, there have been many errors made by the translators. These errors in translations have caused many Christians to become defeated in their lives, not knowing that what they believe in their mind is not what was inspired by the Holy Spirit to be written. The English language does not always have an equivalent word to express the true meaning of the inspired written Word. Therefore, in the English versions of the Bible there is a lot of error.

The only way to overcome the error in English translations is to be taught by God (1 John 2:27). God the Holy Spirit is the one whom had the original writings written. The Bible was not written according to mans reasoning or understanding. The inspired written Word of God was written by men as the Holy Spirit inspired them to write (2 Peter 1:20,21). To know the truth we need the same Holy Spirit to interpret what is written, that we can understand and know the truth. If we go by the teachings of men, we will easily get into error. But, if we listen to the teaching of the Holy Spirit we will get to know the truth.

We do not need to read very much in our English versions of the Bible to get into error, and believe something that is not true. The real answer to all truth is the revelation of the written Word of God by the Holy Spirit whom had it written in the beginning.

Some will say, how can we be taught by God? How can God teach us without the help of others who claim to be called by God to teach and preach the Bible? The answer to that question is simple, do what you know to do according to the Bible, not according to what people say. If you are truly born again, then God dwells in you, in your spirit. God searches your heart and your mind to know two things. First to know what is the will of God for your life individually. The second thing is to know what you want to do about God, and His Word. Do you want God to be GOD in your life or not? Do you want to know the Truth, or not? Do you want to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, or do you want to follow men, who say they are following God.

Men are liars, whereas God cannot lie. If you want to follow men, God will let you follow whomsoever you want to follow. God only helps those who want to follow His Word. Jesus is the Word of God, and therefore we are to follow Jesus. If our hearts desire is to follow Jesus, to follow the Word of God, the Holy Spirit sees the desire of our heart, and helps us in every area of our lives. That is the reason the Holy Spirit is here on earth, to help, guide, comfort, lead, and teach those who belong to God by the new birth in Christ Jesus.

It is so simple that the majority of Christians miss it. They keep looking at the more difficult things, and pass over the simple things that God has given us in Christ Jesus.

In doing so, they love their favorite English translations, and never take the time to do what it says in their favorite English translation. I do not know of any English translation that does not have our first commandment in it. That is, “**...thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment**” (Mark 12:30). If Christians will do that, God will find a way to make sure they are taught by God, and not by men. God knows how to do what He says He will do. It is not difficult for God to do what He says He will do. God always does what He says He will do. That is the way it is with God. That is why He is GOD over all of creation. Because He always does what He says He will do.

God created everything in the beginning. God knows how to make things work according to the purpose He created them for. God knows what He is doing at all times. When we get to know God as well as God knows us, we will also know what God is doing at all times. When we know what God is doing at all times, it is easy to follow Jesus and be led by the Holy Spirit in every area of our lives.

The problem Christians have is trying to understand the Word of God according to mans ideas of what God could have said, or what they think God should have said. That is what happens in many translations of the inspired written Word of God. Not just in English versions, but in most other versions which have been translated by men. The problem is in the translation, not in the inspired written Word. If we do not Search the Scriptures and Study the Scriptures we will not know the difference between the truth and the error.

Going to 2 Corinthians 5:17, it doesn't say what most Christians think it says. In the King James Version of the Bible it says, “**Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**”

If we look at what it says in the Greek, it does not say what it says in the King James Version. In the King James Version there are a number of words added in the English, and some of them are incorrectly translated.

The word “**Therefore**” is a conjunction word, joining the last verse to this verse. The words “**if any man,**” is all translated out of one word, which means “**any,**” it does not necessarily mean man, it includes women. The word “**be**” is added, it is not in the Greek text at all. The following words “**he is,**” are not in the Greek text at all they are added by the translators. The word “**a new creature,**” are correctly translated, but the meaning is not clear without the remaining correct translation of what follows. The words “**old things,**” are correctly translated, but again not clear without the correct translation of what follows. The Greek word “*parerchomai,*” which they translated to “**are passed away,**” are incorrectly translated. This Greek word is in the inactive mood, which means, “If an action really occurs or has occurred or will occur, it will be rendered in the

indicative mood.” Therefore, to translate the word “parerchomai,” correctly it should have been translated to **“are passing away.”**

The old man who was in the flesh is still here. If you do not think it is, try putting your finger in a fire and see what happens. Or try cutting your finger with a sharp object and see what happens. If you feel your finger burning, or feel the pain from the cut, you will know your flesh body is still here. It has not passed away. The same thing applies to your mind. If your mind does not always agree with God, and the Word of God, you should know there is something wrong. For if this corruptible has already put on incorruption, then you would not think things that are not in agreement with the Word of God. Being that your thoughts are still corrupt, that means your mind is not already renewed. That means the Scripture in Romans 12:1,2, still applies to you, because the process of a new creature in Christ is not complete. You are still in the process of a complete change from the old man of the flesh to the new man in Christ.

Somebody did not translate the Greek word “parerchomai” correctly. This is not a work of the Holy Spirit of incorrectly translating from the Greek to the English. If we insist on believing our English versions of the Bible, God cannot help us. We need to be taught by God not by man.

The words **“behold, all things are become new,”** are also incorrectly translated. It does not say that in the Greek. The word **“behold,”** could be used as it is translated, providing we keep everything else according to the Greek. The word **“behold,”** could have been translated **“see,”** and it still would be correct. The words **“all things”** could be correctly used, providing the word **“ginomai.”** would be translated correctly. The Greek word **“ginomai”** is also in the inactive mood, which means, **“If an action really occurs or has occurred or will occur, it will be rendered in the indicative mood.”** This Greek word should have been translated to **“are passing away.”**

When any verse of Scripture is correctly translated it will agree with the other verses of Scripture that speak of the same subject. Therefore, for 2 Corinthians 5:17 to be correctly translated it must also agree with Romans 12:1,2, which says, **“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service...And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”** If the action of a new creature was already complete there would not be any need for you to present your body **“a living sacrifice,”** or to **“renew your mind.”** The reason we are told to present our bodies a living sacrifice, and renew our minds, is because the action of being a new creature in Christ is not at this time complete. In Ephesians 1:13,14 it says, **“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise...Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”** According to this, our redemption is not yet complete. We only have **“the earnest of our inheritance.”** which means, the down payment so that we can live in the Spirit and walk in the Spirit and do what God desires for us to do while we are still here on earth in our physical bodies of earthly flesh and bones. Our redemption will not be complete until we leave this physical body of earthly flesh and bones and go to be with the LORD in our spiritual body.

In 1 Corinthians 15:51-53 it tells us the same thing. It says, **“Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed...In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we**

shall be changed...For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.” If this has not taken place already, then the action of a new creature in Christ is not yet complete. It will be complete once 1 Corinthians 15:54, is complete, which says, **“So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.”**

Christians who believe that everything is complete already, are being deceived by miss-translations of the inspired written Word of God. The Holy Spirit did not inspire 2 Corinthians 5:17 to be translated the way it is in the English Versions of the Bible. That was done by men, without the help of the Holy Spirit.

If we desire to do the will of God in our lives and attain unto the resurrection of the dead, we need to be taught by God, not by men. God will teach us if we will do what we are told to do in the Scriptures. If we will do what it says in Isaiah 26:3,4, God will teach us by His Spirit working in us from our spirit. In Isaiah 26:3,4 it says, **“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee...Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.”**

How do we keep our mind stayed upon the LORD? The LORD and the Word of God are the same. In John 1:1-3 it says, **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...The same was in the beginning with God...All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.”** The LORD is the Word of God. When we keep our mind stayed upon the Word of God we are keeping our mind stayed upon the LORD.

Hebrews 4:12 says **“For the word of God is quick (alive), and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”** The Word of God is alive. It is a living Word. It knows everything at all times. The Word of God will bring life to every part of our being if we will continue in the Word day and night.

There is nothing impossible for the Word of God. The Word of God created all things (Heb. 1:2,3). Being that the Word created man, then the Word is well able to do whatsoever it says it can do. Isaiah 55:11 says **“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”** If we will do what the Word of God tells us to do it will do for us whatsoever God promises us in His Word.

Jesus said in John 6:63, **“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”** The Words that Jesus speaks are spirit and they produce life. The word “life,” that Jesus spoke of in this verse is not natural life, but it is spiritual life. It is eternal life which is in God, in Christ Jesus.

To the Devil, Jesus said in Matthew 4:4, **“It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”** In this world, we do not live by food for our bodies alone. We live by the Word of God, which gives us eternal life, and maintains our eternal life.

If our minds is stayed upon the LORD, Who is the Word of God, all our needs will be taken care of. The Word of God will supply all our needs. Whatsoever we have need of, God will supply it according to His wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of all things, natural and spiritual.

We live in a world that was created by the Word of God. Now we need to keep our mind

stayed upon the LORD, which is the Word of God, and we will have perfect peace at all times. It is when we let others tell us what to do and how to do it that we get into situations that cause us difficulties.

Many Christians have listened to others who claim they know what they are saying is true. Just because they say it is true that does not make it true. Some Christians say that speaking in tongues is not for today. If you believe that you will be believing a lie. If you believe lies, how can God help you? God cannot have fellowship with those who believe lies. Lies are works of darkness, and God is Light and in Him is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5,6).

Darkness in the Bible many times is speaking of works of the Devil. Christians should not have anything to do with the works of the Devil. If our mind is stayed upon the LORD, He will keep us from the works of the Devil. He will keep us in perfect peace, if our mind is stayed upon Him.

When other Christians go listening to lies of the Devil, we should not follow them. We have a choice in this life, we can follow the LORD by His Word, and taught by the Holy Spirit, or we can follow those who are not following the LORD. The choice is ours, whom we will follow?

The best way to follow the LORD is to keep our mind stayed upon the LORD, which is His Word. God knows our heart, and God knows every thought that enters our mind. There is nothing hid from God. Hebrews 4:13 says, **“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”** There is nothing that can be hid from God. God is for us, not against us. God will do whatsoever He says in His Word, that we can spend eternity with Him forever.

Even with all that God has promised us in His Word, we must do what God says we should do. Then what God says He will do will be done. If we do not do what God says we should do, then God does not have to keep His promises either.

It is not all God’s part and nothing on our part. We have things we must do, and God has things that He says He will do. If we Search the Scriptures from Genesis through Revelation, we will see what God says we need to do. We will also see what God says He will do.

While searching the Scriptures we need to study the Scriptures also, so that we know what is written is what God said, and not what some other man has translated wrong. If we believe what men have translated wrongly, we will in fact be believing a lie. If we believe a lie, God cannot help us.

This is why it is important that we keep our mind on the LORD, which is the Word of God. As we keep our mind on the LORD, the Holy Spirit will know what is the desire of our heart. God goes by what the desire of our heart is, not by what others tell us. In 2 Chronicles 16:9 it says, **“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him...”**

God is always looking at our heart, looking for those **“whose heart is perfect toward him.”** If our heart is to keep our mind stayed upon the LORD, in His Word, God will do whatsoever He has promised in His Word. Those whose heart is perfect toward the LORD, will be blessed, and will have perfect peace all the time.

I know Christians in all walks of life. Some of them say they are Apostles, some say they are Prophets, some say they are Pastors, but they do not all have peace. Some have all sorts of problems. One time a Pastor said to me something like this, *“Merle, what do you think I should do? The Bishop over us wants to come and speak to those in my Church. He lives here in town, but he said, before*

he comes he needs one thousand dollars up front. We do not have that kind of money. What should we do?" This Pastor's spirit and his mind were not in agreement. If his spirit and his mind were in agreement there would be no question in his mind what to do?

The Holy Spirit within us will reveal those things which are not of God, and we will know beyond all doubt that, that was not of God. The man who wanted to come was a man with a title walking in the flesh.

The Holy Spirit works from within our spirit, revealing the things of the spiritual realm, which is of God and what is not of God. We do not need to follow those who are walking in the flesh. We need to be walking in the Spirit, led by the Holy Spirit. We should not be walking in the flesh follow those who are walking in the flesh.

In Galatians 6:7,8 it says, **"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap...For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."** Did you know that reaping corruption is the opposite of reaping everlasting life? If you want to reap everlasting life in heaven you need to be sewing to the Spirit and not to the flesh.

Do not listen to every voice, even if the one speaking says they are an Apostle, Prophet, or Pastor. Just because they say they have a title, that does not mean they are telling the truth. Jesus said, **"And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many...And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold...But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved"** (Matt. 24:13-15).

We should not let ourselves be deceived by a false prophet. We should not let the love of God grow cold. We must endure unto the end, then we will be saved.

The only way to do that is to keep our mind stayed upon the LORD and keep the Word in our heart and mind everyday. Everyday with the LORD will keep us on the straight and narrow way that leads to eternal life in heaven (Matt. 7:13,14). Do not be deceived by those who **"...come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves"** (Matt. 7:15).

If you keep your mind stayed upon the LORD, and keep the Word of God alive in you every day of your life, God will protect and preserve you unto eternal life in heaven when you leave this earth for the last time.

This is **Part 1** of **"Perfect Peace."** Get the following parts to this mini-book series, they will help you to turn your life in the right direction and keep yourself following Jesus. All books on our Web sites are free. You can download as many free books as you desire. Go to our Web sites at:

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