

THE SOURCE OF PEACE, JOY AND SECURITY

JOHN 14:27–31

Introduction

This is a passage which speaks ever so warmly yet forcibly to the needs of men. It covers the source of *peace, joy, and security*.

- I. The source of peace (v. 27).
- II. The source of joy (vv. 28-29).
- III. The source of security (vv. 30-31).

I. *John 14:27 The Source of Peace*

Peace (eirene) means to bind together, to join, to weave together. It means that a person is bound, woven and joined together with himself and with God and others.

The Hebrew word is *shalom*. It means freedom from trouble and much more. It means experiencing the highest good, enjoying the very best, possessing all the inner good possible. It means wholeness and soundness. It means prosperity in the widest sense, especially prosperity in the spiritual sense of having a soul that blossoms and flourishes.

1. There is the peace of the world. This is a peace of escapism, of avoiding trouble, of refusing to face things, of unreality. It is a peace that is sought through pleasure, satisfaction, contentment, absence of trouble, positive thinking or denial of problems.
2. There is the peace of Christ and of God. This is, first, a *bosom peace*, a peace deep within. It is a tranquillity of mind, a composure, a peace that is calm in the face of bad circumstances and situations. It is more than feelings — even more than attitude and thought.

This is, second, the *peace of conquest* (see Jn. 16:33). It is the peace independent of conditions and environment; the peace which no sorrow, no danger, no suffering, no experience can take away.

John 16:33 “*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.*”

This is, third, the *peace of assurance* (see Rom. 8:28). It is the peace of unquestionable confidence; the peace with a sure knowledge that one’s life is in the hands of God and that all things will work out for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose.

Rom 8:28 *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

This is, fourth, the *peace of intimacy with God* (see Phil. 4:6-7). It is the peace of the highest good. It is the peace that settles the mind, strengthens the will and establishes the heart.

3. There is the source of peace. Peace is always born out of reconciliation. Its source is found only in the reconciliation wrought by Jesus Christ. Peace always has to do with personal relationships: a man's relationship to himself, to God, and to his fellow men. A man must be bound, woven, and joined together with himself, with God and with his fellow man.

Eph 2:13-14 *But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.*

Col 1:20-21 *And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour!*

Man secures peace in the following manner:

=> by justification

Rom 5:1 *Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

=> by loving God's Word

Psa 119:165 *Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.*

John 16:33 *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

=> by praying about everything

Phil 4:6-7 *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

=> by being spiritually minded

Rom 8:6 *The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.*

=> by keeping his mind upon God

Isa 26:3 *You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.*

Phil 4:8 *Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things.*

=> by obeying God's commands

Isa 48:18 *If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea.*

Phil 4:9 *Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me — put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

The subject of peace is often divided into (1) the peace *with* God, which is wrought through salvation (Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:14-17); (2) the peace of God, which is the very peace of God Himself and which points to God as the Source of peace (Lk. 7:50; Phil. 4:6-7); (3) the peace *from* God, which God gives to dwell in the heart of the believer as he walks day by day in the Lord (Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:3).

II. **John 14:28–29** *The Source of Joy, Rejoicing*

The source of joy, of rejoicing and being glad. *Joy* (chara) and rejoicing or *being glad* (echarete, the same root word as joy) mean an inner gladness and a deep seated pleasure. It is a depth of assurance and confidence that ignites a cheerful heart. It is a cheerful heart that leads to cheerful behaviour.

The source of joy is threefold. (See *Joy*, Jn. 15:11.)

1. The return of Jesus to the Father causes believers to joy and rejoice. “I am going away and I am coming back to you” is a reference to His death, resurrection, and ascension.
 - a. The death or cross of Christ attracts and causes men to joy and rejoice. The cross is the source of their deliverance from sin, death, and hell. Jesus said that both the world and Satan would be conquered by the cross, by His death (Jn. 12:32).

John 12:32 *“But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.”*

Gal 6:14 *May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*

- b. The resurrection and ascension of Christ attracts and causes men to joy and rejoice or be glad. The resurrection and ascension are the sources of their new life and hope for eternity (Notes, *Resurrection*, Jn. 14:6; 7:33-34; Mk. 16:19-20).

Rom 5:1-2 *Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.*

Psa 16:11 *You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.*

Isa 35:10 *And the ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.*

2. The Father's greatness causes believers to joy and rejoice or be glad. The Father demonstrated His great love and power by releasing Jesus...

- from the sinful nature, the flesh: with all its limitations and weaknesses
- from the world: with all its trials and temptations
- from the devil: with all his oppression, deception, accusations and attacks
- from the pressure of men: with all their demands, threats, attacks and rejection

The Father took Jesus home, back from where He had come; and He restored Him to His seat of glory, exalting Him above every name that is named (Phil. 2:9-11). The believer joys and rejoices in the phenomenal power of the Father's greatness.

John 16:24 *"Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete."*

Rom 14:17 *For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

1 Pet 1:8-9 *Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

Phil 4:4 *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*

Thought 1. The implication of the Father's power for the believer is phenomenal. The believer will also be released from the sinful nature, the flesh, the world, the devil and the pressure of men, just as Jesus was.

John 15:11 *"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."*

3. A confirmed faith causes believers to joy and rejoice or be glad. The claims of Jesus have been proven and verified. Just as He told His disciples, all that He predicted has come to pass.

=> He did leave (die).

=> He did return (the resurrection).

=> He did go to His Father (the ascension).

=> He did send the Holy Spirit.

Note: by foretelling these things, Jesus strengthened the faith of believers enormously. (In fact, think about it: He could have chosen no better way to strengthen the faith of believers.)

John 15:11 *"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."*

John 17:13 *"I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them."*

***Jer 15:16** When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty.*

JOHN 15:11 JOY (CHARA)

*"I told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." **John 15:11***

An inner gladness; a deep-seated pleasure. It is a depth of assurance and confidence that ignites a cheerful heart. It is a cheerful heart that leads to cheerful behaviour.

Several things need to be said about the believer's joy.

1. Joy is divine. It is possessed and given only by God. Its roots are not in earthly or material things or cheap triumphs. It is the joy of the Holy Spirit, a joy based in the Lord. It is His very own joy (Jn.15:11; Act. 13:52; Rom. 14:17; Gal. 5:22; 1 Th. 1:6).
2. Joy does not depend on circumstances or happiness. Happiness depends upon happenings, but the joy that God implants in the believer's heart overrides all, even the most troublesome matters of life and death (Psa. 5:11; 2 Cor. 6:10; 7:4).
3. Joy springs from faith (Rom. 15:13; Phil. 1:25; 2 Tim. 1:4; see Mt. 2:10).
4. Joy of future reward makes and keeps one faithful (Mt. 25:21, 23; Acts 20:24; Heb. 12:2).

The source of the believer's joy is several fold.

1. The fellowship of the Father and His Son brings joy (1 Jn. 1:3-4; Psa. 16:11).
2. Victory over sin, death, and hell brings joy (Jn. 14:28; 16:20-22; Isa. 12:3; 61:10).
3. Repentance brings joy (Lk. 15:7, 10).
4. The hope of glory brings joy (Rom. 14:17; Heb. 12:2; 1 Pet. 4:13).
5. The Lord's Word, the revelations, commandments, and promises which He made bring joy (Jn. 15:11).
6. The commandments of Christ and the will of God bring joy. Obeying and doing a good job stirs joy within the believer's heart (Jn. 15:11, 32; 17:13; Act. 13:52; Jer. 15:16).
7. Prayer brings joy (Jn. 16:24).
8. The presence and fellowship of believers bring joy (1 Jn. 1:3-4).
9. Converts bring joy (Lk. 15:5; Phil. 4:1; 1 Th. 2:19-20; Psa. 126:5).
10. Hearing that others walk in the truth brings joy (3 Jn. 1:4).
11. Giving brings joy (2 Cor. 8:2; Heb. 10:34). □

III. *John 14: 30–31 The Source of Security*

The believer's security comes from two sources.

1. Security comes from Jesus' victory over Satan. (See *Satan*, Jn. 12:31; *Cross of Jesus Christ*, Jn. 12:32.)
 - a. "Satan is coming": he was using men (Judas and the religionists) to make a last ditch effort to destroy Jesus. But Satan had nothing in Jesus; there was nothing which he could use to attract Jesus to sin. There was no lust, no greed, no selfishness — nothing in Jesus that Satan could use to destroy Him.

John 8:46 *"Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me?"*

2 Cor 5:21 *God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Heb 4:15 *For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin.*

Heb 7:26 *Such a high priest meets our need — one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.*

1 Pet 1:19 *But with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.*

- b. Jesus was predicting that He would be completely victorious and triumphant over Satan.

John 12:31 *"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out."*

John 14:30 *"I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me."*

Col 2:15 *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

Heb 2:14-15 *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.*

1 John 3:8 *He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.*

2. Security comes from Jesus' obedience to the Father. The Father's great commandment was for Jesus to die for the sins of the world. His death was the supreme act of obedience. (Jn. 12:27-30.)

John 10:17-18 *“The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life - only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”*

John 12:27-28 *“Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.”*

Eph 5:2 *And live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ■*