

Making My Joy Complete Series
Spiritual Stability Pt.3
(Gratitude, Godly Thinking, and Obedience)
Philippians 4:6b-9

Introduction:

Spiritual Stability – is when we don't collapse under persecution or compromise truth, or fail under testing or complain, or yield to temptation and sin.

4 Previously shared Principles of Spiritual Stability

** Spiritual Harmony, * Maintaining Spiritual Joy,
* Contentment, and * Confident Faith in the Lord*

I. Reacting to Trials with Thankful Prayer v.6b

- a. Such prayer is the antidote to worry and the cure for anxiety
- b. We are to take all problems to God in prayer with thanksgiving Col 4:2
- c. Remembering God's promise that everything that happens is for our ultimate good Rom 8:28

II. The Peace of God v.7a

- a. Before we can have the Peace of God, we must first be at peace with God
- b. The peace of God is a supernatural peace Isa 26:3

III. Peace that Surpasses all Understanding v.7b

- a. The peace of God transcends human intellectual powers, human insights, and understanding.
- b. It is experienced in a transcendent calm that lifts the believer above the most debilitating trials and tribulations.

Please Turn Over

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IV. God's Peace will Guard Us v.7c

- a. When we embody true faith in God, in our lives, God's peace will guard us from anxiety, doubt, and worry.
- b. Just as soldiers guard and protect a city, so God's peace guards and protects those who confidently trust in Him

V. Thinking on Godly Virtues v.8

- a. Dwell on – means to evaluate, to consider, or to calculate.
- b. Our lives are the product of our thoughts
Prov 23:7
- c. GIGO (Garbage In, Garbage Out)
- d. It is what comes from within that defiles us Matt 7:20-23

The Focus of our Thoughts Should Be On:

- Whatever is true
- Whatever is honorable
- Whatever is right
- Whatever is pure
- Whatever is lovely
- Whatever is of good repute
- Anything of excellence and praise worthy

VI. Obeying God's Standards v.9

- a. The preceding 7 attitudes must not be viewed as mere abstract principles;
- b. Godly thinking cannot be divorced from godly living.