

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."

The context of this verse will be trials, temptation, sin, sorrow, suffering, injustice, violence and evil. The effect of sin surrounds us all. Wherever sin is present war is raging. I tell you war has been raging since the fall in the garden. We know that.

Ephesian 6:12 encourages us to realize that "We do not wrestle against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of the world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

Jesus wanted us to realize that there will always be trouble in the world as long as there are ungodly people with ungodly hearts and ungodly conduct. But Jesus has broken the power of sin and death!

Hebrews 2:14-15 bolsters and lifts us up with these beautiful truths: "Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of 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.

We can take heart because Jesus went to the cross for us, died, and was resurrected on the third day to the glory of God. We must remember that there is hope for peace! Why? We are in Him and He abides in us.

Sheila Walsh said: "I agree peace is not the absence of trouble but the presence of Christ. It is a gift of God and congruent with His character. The more we draw nearer to Him the more peace we will have."

Let me leave you with Psalm 91:1,2 and words from the hymn: It Is Well With My Soul:

"Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

The victory is ours.

It is Well with My Soul – by Horatio Spafford

When peace like a river, attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well, with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.