

A scenic view of a beach with waves, a white cross, and birds in the sky. The background shows a sandy beach with gentle waves lapping at the shore. In the foreground, there are some green and brown plants. A large white cross is superimposed on the left side of the image. The sky is blue with a few birds flying. The text "Senior Bible Study Ministry" is written in a bold, black font across the top right of the image.

Senior Bible Study Ministry

<https://www.seniorbiblestudies.org/>



IT IS WELL
WITH MY SOUL

It Is Well With My Soul

- Horatio Spafford (1828-1888) was a successful lawyer & Presbyterian elder from Chicago
- In 1871, the Great Chicago Fire destroyed much of his real estate investments
- Two years later, his four daughters drowned in the Atlantic Ocean when their ship, the SS Ville du Havre, sank after a collision

It Is Well With My Soul

- His wife, Anna, survived and when she reached England, she sent Spafford a telegram with the words: "Saved alone"
- On his way to join her, Spafford wrote "It Is Well with My Soul" as his ship passed near the location of his daughters' death
- This hymn is a testament to his unshakable faith in God even amidst overwhelming grief

It Is Well With My Soul

*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.*



PEACE LIKE A RIVER



Peace Like a River

- Peace during Trials
 - The peace of God transcends all understanding & will guard our hearts
 - Even in our trials we can experience the peace of God attending our way, much like a river flowing peacefully

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7 ESV)

Peace Like a River

- God's Sovereignty in All Circumstances – We can recognize God's hand even in times of sorrow, trusting in His divine plan

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28 ESV)

Peace Like a River

- Trusting God's Faithfulness - We can have confidence in God's faithfulness during hardship

1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, (Psalm 46:1-2 ESV)

Peace Like a River

- Contentment in Christ - Our soul can be at rest, even in trials

11 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I

can do all things through him who strengthens me.
(Philippians 4:11-13 ESV)

Peace Like a River

- Jesus, Our Source of Calm - Jesus calming of the storms of our lives, allows us to declare, “It is well”

39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. (Mark 4:39 ESV)

It Is Well With My Soul

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



www.precast.org

The Battle For The Soul

- Spiritual Warfare - We wrestle not against flesh & blood but against spiritual forces of evil

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

(Ephesians 6:12 ESV)

The Battle For The Soul

- Christ's Victory Over Satan
 - Christ disarms the powers & authorities, triumphing over them by the cross
 - Despite Satan's attacks, Christ's victory gives us assurance of our victory

*15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.
(Colossians 2:15 ESV)*

The Battle For The Soul

- God Permits Trials for Our Good - Trials refine our faith like gold & are opportunities to grow in faith & trust in God's plan

6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7 ESV)

The Battle For The Soul

- The Assurance of Salvation - We can find peace, knowing that our sin has been paid for & that we stand forgiven

1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1 ESV)

The Battle For The Soul

- Christ as Our Intercessor - Even as trials come, we can be assured that Christ is advocating on our behalf

34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

(Romans 8:34 ESV)

It Is Well With My Soul

*My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

Forgiveness Through Christ

- Freedom in Christ - It is for freedom that Christ has set us free

*For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.
(Galatians 5:1 ESV)*

It Is Well With My Soul

*And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.*



H O P E

I N T H E L O R D

Hope in the Lord

- The Hope of Christ's Return – As believers we have the hope that Christ will return & the dead in Christ will rise

16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 ESV)

Hope in the Lord

- Eternal Glory Awaits - The sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. (Romans 8:18 ESV)

Hope in the Lord

- The End of Suffering - The hope of eternal life with Christ brings comfort and peace

*17 “For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”
(Revelation 7:17 ESV)*

Hope in the Lord

- The Resurrection Hope – At our resurrection of our perishable body, we will put on the imperishable & death will be swallowed up in victory

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

Hope in the Lord

*54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”
(1 Corinthians 15:52-54 ESV)*

Practical Applications

- Even when trials come, choose to rely on the peace that only God can provide
- Trust that God is in control of all circumstances, even when we don't understand them
- Anchor your life in the hope of the Gospel
- Reflect daily on the joy of being forgiven & live in the freedom that Christ offers

Practical Applications

- Let the promise of Christ's return & the future glory guide your perspective in difficult times
- Use your suffering as an opportunity to show others the peace & hope that come from faith in Christ

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean for you personally to say, "It is well with my soul"?
- How can you experience God's peace in the midst of trials or loss?
- How can remembering Christ's forgiveness of your sins bring comfort during difficult seasons?
- In what ways does the hope of Christ's return impact how you live today?



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WITH MY SOUL



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**FORGIVENESS
THROUGH
CHRIST**

Forgiveness Through Christ

- The Fullness of Forgiveness - Complete forgiveness is found in Christ

12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12 ESV)

- Christ Bore Our Sins - We can rejoice in this profound truth, knowing our sins are no longer held against us

24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:24 ESV)

Forgiveness Through Christ

- The Blessing of Justification- We have been justified through faith & have peace with God through Jesus

*1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
(Romans 5:1 ESV)*

Forgiveness Through Christ

- The Power of Redemption - In Christ, we have redemption through His blood & the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of God's grace

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, (Ephesians 1:7 ESV)