

Know God, Know Peace

by Ryan Downey

No God, No Peace. Know God, Know Peace.

We live in a world where majorities choose no God and as a result they have no peace. Christianity is a fulltime position that we need to fully incorporate into our daily lives. I want to take you to two places briefly. The first place I want to take you to a world where kings ruled: This place is Jerusalem.

Some people think in order to make change in the world you have to be a great leader. I want to introduce you to a woman who is not a high profile character, but one who chose to bear God's word and deliver it to King Josiah. Her name is Huldah. In 2 Kings 22:14 she has been approached to help the king understand the book of the law that has been found in the temple. Why do you think that she was chosen? She had a reputation of knowing God and being at peace with Him. She was faithful in what God asked her to do. She was able to have peace of mind because she was right in her relationship to him. As a prophet, she trusted him, she obeyed him, and she let him control her life.

In Numbers 6:24-27 "the Lord says he will bless you, keep you, his face will shine on you, and he will be gracious to you. He will lift up his countenance on you and give you peace." Huldah is an example of god showing favor to one who was dedicated to Him. Don't you want that? Don't you want to be loved by a God whose face shines on you? God offers his peace as a gift, available to you. The only thing keeping you from having these things is a heart that chooses to serve self rather than God.

As we leave Jerusalem, we come to a place that we know all too well. It is not a physical place,

but a state of mind: the state of sleepless nights and burden. That state comes about when we feel trapped by our past.

In Genesis 4 we read of two brothers that both were worshiping God. Abel worshipped God in a way that was pleasing to God first and to him the second. Cain worshipped God in a way that was pleasing to Cain first and to God second. God rejected Cain's sacrifice. Out of jealous anger Cain rose up and killed his brother for finding favor in God's eyes. God said that Abel's blood cried out to him, so God punished Cain for his sin.

In verse 13 Cain says "My punishment is greater than I can bear" but he does nothing about it. He could have repented and been forgiven. Unfortunately, we do not read in the bible where Cain ever asked for forgiveness. For the rest of his life he never finds peace again. In verse 14 Cain is driven out the land as a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth.

Gary Thomas, an author of Christian literature, said it best when he said, "'That's just the way I am' is a confession of sloth, not humility." Cain gave up a life with God for an attitude that says, "That's just the way that I am." Don't choose to be like Cain. God has given you a gift through which you can find peace in your life; it's called the present. God wants you to have peace of mind in Him. Let us show you how.



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**Are you searching
for contentment?**

We can help you find the peace of mind that only comes from a relationship with God. Email us at MyWestEndChurch@gmail.com