



Wednesday, 12/7/16

PROMISE OF PEACE TO HIS SAINTS

READING: Psalm 85: 7-13

W.H. Bellinger, a professor of religion at Baylor University, describes Psalm 85 as a model for prayer in a time of crisis, and further describes verses 8-13 as a celebration of the peace and salvation offered when we turn to Him.

In November of 2009 I deployed to Iraq only 18 days after the birth of my first child; a beautiful little girl. During those few days we were together and for some time afterward she was having trouble gaining weight and spit up almost everything she took in. Three months into the deployment her issues had not resolved and the reflux had gotten so bad she was hospitalized. I felt absolutely powerless; I was thousands of miles away from this little baby whose well-being I was responsible for and I couldn't protect her, comfort her, speak to her or even hold her. It's safe to say, I felt I was in a crisis.

I turned to God in prayer and sought his comfort and received only a peace that He can provide. A peace that transcended the mere knowledge that the doctors were capable and would provide her the necessary healing care. His peace was able to settle my soul as I heard Him say "you are powerless, but it's ok because I will carry this burden."

God continually offers us peace and joy in all things, He only wants us to seek Him and ask. When we ask, God pours out his abundant love beyond measure. As the apostle Paul writes "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

-Matt Green