

# Peace for the Hurting Soul

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Recently, as our family vehicle passed along the 20 km strip of a busy U.S. resort town, driving back to our lodging at sundown, we encountered the same lighted overhead neon sign message four times.



As Christians, we know that unless we are protected by God and His Living Word, we are vulnerable to the onslaught of the devil. For some people this might mean a lack of interest in God, or lives that reflect the ways of the world - power, money, and materialism. However, while we're in Christ's care, the devil may tempt us, but he can't destroy us.

In the Old Testament, as a result of the Fall, the relationship between God and Man was broken. Nevertheless, through God's promise of a Saviour this relationship was restored, enabling a similar one – a harmonious relationship of people with one another to exist. Since God has forgiven us for Jesus' sake, we are called upon by God to reflect this forgiveness to others.

Jesus' disciples had the opportunity to share the Good News about Jesus' resurrection. In Acts 8:27,

Phillip was able to explain to the eunuch how Jesus, the Risen Saviour, was the One spoken of in Old Testament prophecies. The listener's belief here led to his eagerness to become baptized.

Similarly, in Acts 16, the jailor, observing the joy that Paul and Silas displayed despite their captivity, saw them as preachers of the way of salvation. This led him to ask, "What must I do to be saved?" and then request baptism not only for himself but also for his whole family.

It would do us all well to remember the words of St. Paul: "Rejoice in the Lord always.....do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication ,with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God"(Philippians 4:4-7 ESV).