

## PURSUIT OF PEACE

"Seek Peace and Pursue it" - Psalm 34:14

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### CHAPTER TEN -

#### RESTING

ONE SELDOM ATTENDS A FUNERAL that the minister does not refer in some way to the departed loved one as being "at rest with the Lord." When I was a child, we enjoyed playing in the family cemetery on our Virginia farm. Our greatest fun came from reading the names on the tombstones and trying to picture the kind of person who was buried. A number of the headstones had words on them something like this: "Resting in the Lord," and "entered into rest." Many Christians do not believe that there is real rest for them until they go to be in the presence of the Lord. But GOD's Word teaches that there is a wonderful rest for the Christian here on earth.

**"There remaineth . . . a rest to the people of God"** (Hebrews 4:9) right now.

There is GOD's rest for the Christian now as definitely as there is GOD's peace, joy, love, etc. To some peace and rest are synonymous. In many ways they are the same. We will all agree that they greatly overlap. Rest has more to do with the enjoyment and the realization of the calmness and serenity of our peace. I would even go so far as to say that it is impossible to have the feeling of peace without being at rest with GOD.

What is rest? Many Christian experiences and blessings are hard to explain when we try to put them in words. Sometimes we ruin the completeness and beauty of these promises by trying to describe them in language. Have you ever been tired and frightened as a child? Do you remember running to your mother and just resting your head on her shoulder? The fear was gone, your body seemed to find strength from hers and your heart was happy and at rest because you knew that she would make everything right. Try to translate that to your relationship to your heavenly Father's love and care.

Rest is letting yourself completely down in GOD's everlasting arms with your full weight and strength. It is the giving of yourself over to Him in a definite act of resting your all on Him. It is believing GOD's ability to do what He has promised and acting accordingly.

Resting in the Lord means recognizing that the stress and strain of managing your life, the worry and fear of what will come next, the concern for material needs will all be taken care of by the Lord. Above all we rest in the full assurance that we are saved for now and for all eternity. Everything that concerns us is now GOD's responsibility. We rest in the promise that for this life "**all things work together for good**" (Romans 8:28). Each day and each moment is planned by

GOD. All we need do is ask for His will and cheerfully do it. He guides step by step and we rest in Him as we leave the results in His loving hands.

CHRIST gave us the invitation and the way of entering into His rest in Matthew 11:28-30.  
**"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."**

A careful reading of these verses shows that CHRIST is talking about two kinds of rest.

The first rest is promised to those who will just come to Him. Those who are working and laboring for their salvation and who are heavy laden with the burden of sin on their hearts can find the strain removed and the sins forgiven. This salvation rest comes only to those who will come to CHRIST and accept Him as Saviour. This is something that is given by GOD and can never be taken away. This is our position, the immediate possession of every Christian. No human effort has anything to do with this transaction. We are put into Christ only on the basis of Christ's death on the Cross in our place. God now looks at us as though we have been through death and resurrection with Christ. When CHRIST is ours, His rest is ours; when CHRIST is ours, His peace is ours.

You may be saying in your heart, "Wait a minute, didn't you say that all Christians have rest? Then why am I so full of worry, strain, fretting and restlessness?" Read on. The next verse will give you another kind of rest and answer your question. Here we see what we might call our "experimental rest" or that day-by-day feeling of rest. But the verse gives us two conditions that we must meet to have this second kind of rest. This might be compared to our "positional" and "experimental peace," as we discussed in chapter three.

We have peace with GOD the moment we take CHRIST as Saviour but we only experience a feeling of peace as we meet the conditions laid down in GOD's Word for the giving of peace. So when we come to CHRIST we are given rest that can never be taken away, but we experience the feeling of rest as we meet the conditions given here. In this respect peace and rest come to us in the same way.

**"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; . . . and ye shall find rest unto your souls."** This is the way we get the daily practical rest that we all long for so much in these days of hurry and pressures. This is the rest of heart that comes only through surrender and obedience to GOD's will.

It is important that we know what CHRIST means when He speaks of His yoke. It is submission to the authority of GOD's will for your life.

The matter of understanding GOD's will is so important that I think we would do well to digress for a few moments to discuss it. I have found by experience that there are many Christians who do not know or believe that GOD has a will for their lives.

They may believe that GOD plans our life partners and our work, but that we are responsible for the smaller details of our lives. GOD's will includes even the smallest details of our lives. He

says, "**all things work together for good**" (Romans 8:28).

So often the little things affect the entire course of our lives more than the big ones, so we can be glad that GOD plans and cares about what we are doing this very minute. The way you spend your money today, whether you read the newspaper or your Bible this morning, the treatment you gave your family might all make complete changes in your future. It is a comfort, not a restriction, to know that GOD plans and controls these things, so we have a Guide who will keep us in the right way as we let Him.

It will take only a few verses to show the seriousness of GOD's will in His sight. Epaphras prayed that "**ye [Colossians] may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God**" (Colossians 4:12); Paul prayed "**That ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will**" (Colossians 1:9).

After those precious verses about our salvation being a free gift, we are told that we were "**created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them**" (Ephesians 2:10). David tells us that "**the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord**" (Psalm 37:23). The promise in I John 2:17 is, "**He that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**" In Romans 12:1, 2, we are asked to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to GOD that by so doing we "**may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**" Nothing can improve on the perfect will that GOD has prepared for each of us.

Believing and accepting GOD's will for your life might still bring a problem of how to know what His will is for you. Two references might help you. First, GOD says that anyone who is willing to do His will will know what it is (John 7:17). That does not mean that He will show you His will and then let you consider the merits of your will against His. It means He will show His will when there is a purpose in your heart to do it no matter what your personal preference might be. The second reference is in James 1:5-8. "**If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not** [doesn't scold because we need wisdom]; **and it shall be given me.**"

For a long time in spite of my asking I had trouble finding the answer. Dr. Vance Havner's book, *Rest Awhile*, showed me the source of my difficulty. I had failed to note that there was a condition to this promise in the very next verse.

**"But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering [doubting]."**

Then verse seven goes on to say that the doubting man need not think that he will receive anything of the Lord, that is, any wisdom. That had been my problem. I was asking for wisdom without the faith to believe that He would give the answer.

These verses severely tested my life this summer. For some time, I had been planning a trip to Canadian Keswick Bible Conference where my husband was to speak, but as the time grew nearer my health seemed to prevent the trip.

I claimed these verses, being willing to go or to stay at home. But the days came and went without any leading from the Lord. It seemed silly to spend so much money to get me to Canada

only to be sick there, when I could be sick at home without that expense. The day before we were to leave, I packed my suitcase, still not knowing what I was to do. Placing one hand on the case I prayed, "Dear Father, I have asked for Your will. I am honestly willing to do whichever choice You wish. You have promised that You will show me Your will and You cannot lie. Give me the patience to wait for the answer."

Right then the answer came. I was to go. Later my husband told me that he would have cancelled the speaking engagement as I was too sick to be left home alone. After I got to the conference, I gradually felt better.

There I met a person who had come praying and believing that GOD would send someone to her who had suffered in a similar manner and could help her. We had several intimate hours together and I was able to give her several books that would help when she returned home. If I had missed GOD's will, much blessing would have been missed by my husband, others whom he helped, and myself.

Let's review as we look again at the verses in Matthew 11:28-30. We know that GOD has a will for our lives and that He will show it to us when we ask, if it is our purpose to do it whatever the cost. Taking CHRIST's yoke upon us is taking GOD's will instead of our own.

Now look at the second condition tucked away in this verse. "**Learn of me.**" This is a process of daily rest that comes as we learn more of CHRIST. Just as a baby does not learn to walk in twenty-four hours, neither can we learn all there is to know of CHRIST and His rest in a day. This process goes on all through life. The farther along we go the more enjoyable this becomes. The more we rest in CHRIST and see Him work, the more we will learn to trust Him. The more we trust Him, the more rest and peace we will have.

In the last chapter we stressed the necessity of learning to know GOD better. This is just a little reminder that we learn of Him and know Him better only as we fellowship with Him through His Word and talk to Him in prayer.

Keeping our lives free from sin by immediate confession, prevents breaking our fellowship. As long as sin separates us from GOD, there will be no rest-peace or learning to trust Him.

We only trust those that we know well and feel sure are trustworthy. If a stranger came to your door and asked you to invest \$5,000 in some stocks, you would immediately refuse even if you had the money and were interested in an investment. Why? Because you didn't know him and wouldn't trust his word. If a close and trusted friend of experience along these lines advised you to invest in something, you would probably do it because he has proven himself reliable.

Only as we get to know GOD better, seeing how He has worked in the lives of others and kept His promises in His Word, can we fully trust Him. Do you know Him well enough to trust Him in every situation? If not, spend more time in prayer and in studying the Word. Step out on the promises you find there. As you see Him work in your life, your faith will increase.

CHRIST said, "**My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**" Those are startling words in the light of our experiences. But GOD cannot lie! Most Christians say that they believe the Bible from

cover to cover but they don't believe these verses. If they had written their version of this verse, they would have said that GOD's will is hard, burdensome and too heavy to bear. They lament the troubles and circumstances that come to them and continually ask others to pray that these things will be removed completely, forgetting that this thing is His "**good, and acceptable, and perfect, will**" (Romans 12:2). We have the right, of course, to ask for anything that we desire but only in accordance with GOD's will. We are so prone to think of GOD's will only when conditions are unpleasant. We think of His will as a weight and burden that must be taken like bitter medicine. GOD's will should be no more of a weight to the Christian than a wedding ring is to a bride.

I believe that the refusal to gladly accept GOD's will for our lives is one major source of unrest and lack of peace. Everything that takes away our peace and rest, traced to its final source, is usually a refusal to happily accept what GOD sends into our experience. Of course, taking GOD's will as a bitter pill, in a sense rebellion, or flatly refusing to do His will, are sins when faced in the light of GOD's Word.

A lady who read my definition of peace said to me: "Peace can't be the result of trusting GOD to carry out His will in my life. I do trust GOD but I don't have peace. I trust that GOD is going to do what He wants to do. What takes away my peace is the fear that He won't work things out according to my will."

She wanted her own way a great deal more than she wanted GOD's love, power and wisdom. Small wonder she had no peace; self-centered people are often frustrated and unhappy when their wills are crossed.

However, this lady had missed two truths in this definition. Trust implies turning over everything to the Lord in a willingness to go His way. She had also failed to read the last part of the definition. "This confidence comes from believing that GOD is too good to do us any harm, too wise to make a mistake, and too powerful to let anything go wrong."

It should not be true, but I know many Christians who are miserable. Some unsaved people are much happier. Christians who refuse to walk happily and willingly in GOD's way are caught in a terrible web from which there is no release. They are saved and know what they should do but they are not doing it.

Their own desires are still strongest and demand self-expression. Their hearts are rebellious unless their lives can be run smoothly along the pathway of their own planning (I Samuel 15:23). There is no turning back for them to the loss of salvation (praise the Lord), only a forward movement into GOD's will. If not, they will live in that tormented state of in between.

They are like square rods trying to turn in a round hole. Each turn only brings scraping, rubbing and a gradual chipping away of the edges. The constant strain of chafing under GOD's yoke, yet never finding happiness outside of His will either, may eventually wear out the body and nervous system. It is safe to say that at least some of the nervousness and emotional troubles in Christians come from this cause.

It is as disastrous to try to straddle your will and GOD's at the same time as it is to try to ride two

horses going in different directions. To say the least, the result is never pleasant and usually brings much pain.

As a pastor's wife I have wept tears with people who thought they could outsmart GOD while doing their own wills. They are now suffering the painful results and some will suffer the rest of their lives for their rebellion unless GOD miraculously intervenes. I wish there were enough space in this book and I could be released from confidences so I could prove to you from experiences that there can never be peace-rest apart from being equally yoked with GOD.

When CHRIST spoke these words of being yoked up with Him, He was using it as an object lesson. His hearers could understand because yoked oxen were a familiar scene in Biblical days. Perhaps they were at the time watching a team of oxen working. A friend of ours traveling in Palestine told of seeing how the men taught the young oxen to walk in a yoke and pull a load gradually.

The younger one was put into a double yoke with an older more experienced ox. The weight of the yoke was on the older more powerful beast. There was no weight on the younger as long as he walked beside the older one. In this way, he was taught to walk in a double yoke. CHRIST said, "**My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**"

He meant that as long as we willingly walk in a double yoke with Him, He will carry the weight and pull the load. Whether we walk in His strength and direction or struggle against the yoke is our choice. We are never forced against our wills. When we go GOD's way, the yoke is easy and light. When we chafe and pull in the opposite direction there is always pain and frustration and restlessness.

GOD is so anxious that we find the rest possible for a Christian that more than a chapter is devoted to the development of this theme (Hebrews 3:7-19 and 4:1-16). "**Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.**"

The kind of fear spoken of in this verse is the godly fear that is commanded of the Christian. It should be a matter of fear if we don't find rest. It is also possible for us to come short of meeting the conditions of this rest. But there is one encouraging word: *left*. The promise of rest is still here. It is still not too late for us to possess it. We can still take GOD's promise and enter into His rest.

We may have missed years of this experience and forfeited many blessings because of our failure but the promise is left, it is still good today. "**There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God**" (Hebrews 4:9). While there is life, there is the possibility of entering into His rest.

As we read through the first part of the fourth chapter of Hebrews, we find the same two types of rest mentioned and explained. There is "salvation rest" that comes from taking CHRIST as Saviour. It is depicted by GOD's creation rest after He had finished the creation of the world. Just so we have a completed and finished rest through the Lord JESUS CHRIST. There is nothing more to be added or needed to be given this rest.

The "experimental rest" is here also and we see that explained by an illustration given from the Old Testament.

It becomes very obvious that GOD is talking about some people who did not enter into rest because of their unbelief. The Word says that these things are written for examples to us that we may learn from other's experiences (I Corinthians 10:11). By looking in the last part of the third chapter of Hebrews we see who failed to enter the promised rest, and why. It was the children of Israel. GOD had delivered them from slavery in Egypt and sent them on the way through the wilderness to the promised land of Canaan.

Many of us learn more of our theology from hymns than we do from the Bible. For that reason some of our songs have led us astray. The land of Canaan is represented as our rest in Heaven in a number of beautiful hymns. The Bible represents the land of Canaan as the promised place of rest for the children of Israel and as a picture of the possible rest that the Christian can know while still down here on earth.

To get the background of the story of the failure of the children of Israel, we must turn to the Old Testament. GOD had promised them this fertile and fruitful land before them and told them to go in immediately and conquer it. But trusting their human judgment more than GOD's promises, they first sent in spies to find out what the land was like.

GOD permitted this because of the stubbornness of their hearts. One man from each of the twelve tribes was chosen to make the inspection tour. They came back with tales of the wonderful conditions of the land. They bore huge, luscious-looking fruit to prove what GOD had already told them. But they also reported the giants among the men and the well fortified cities. All but two of the men said that they couldn't conquer those people even though GOD had told them to go and had promised the victory. Joshua and Caleb were the only ones who wanted to obey GOD in spite of impossible odds. The people moaned, groaned, blamed Moses and longed to return to slavery in Egypt. They complained that their women would be ruined and their children would be killed. They then flatly refused to go to battle for the land of Canaan. We see that unbelief (or a lack of faith) leads to disobedience. It is as true today as it was then.

GOD told Moses that everyone from the age of twenty and up, except Joshua and Caleb, would have to die in the wilderness and the children they said would be killed would be the only ones allowed to go into the land.

He told them to turn back and wander in the desert when they could have been enjoying the fruitfulness of the promised land. It had been their choice. Then to show that rebellion was added to unbelief and disobedience, the children of Israel decided that they would go into the land at once and fight for it.

Moses warned them not to go because GOD would not go with them. GOD allowed them to be killed with only a few escaping to return to camp. "**So we see they could not enter in because of unbelief**" (Hebrews 3:19).

**"Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief"** (Hebrews 4:11).

This makes this an individual, personal matter for today and warns us that we should profit by the failure of the children of Israel and not miss the promise of rest for us through unbelief. We are told to "**labour**" or apply ourselves diligently to learn this secret of rest. This doesn't just happen by chance; this is something that comes by faith alone. "**We which have believed do enter into rest.**"

There are four places in Hebrews 3 and 4 where we are told that the children of Israel missed the blessing of the promised land because of "**unbelief**" or the promise "**not being mixed with faith.**"

This gives us the necessary insight into why we miss GOD's everyday blessing of rest. Unbelief is the opposite of faith or believing what GOD promises. This truth is so plainly stated that we can't mistake the answer. Faith or belief is the condition of finding or experiencing GOD's daily rest. But faith in what? Faith in GOD's Word, of course. "**Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God**" (Romans 10:17).

This is not faith in yourself or your abilities, or in what you hope will happen, or even in what the most godly man has promised. You have to find out first what GOD has promised and then believe it. Many people think they must pray for faith, begging GOD to give them a special grace.

Others think they must have a "second blessing" of GOD in order to know His rest and peace. They say, "My faith is so weak. I have prayed and prayed for faith. I have cried on my knees, begging for faith. Why didn't I get it?" GOD hears your prayers, but that is not His method of giving faith. We must believe something - believe what He says in His Word. Faith is trusting GOD's ability to do what He has promised to do. "**With God all things are possible**" (Matthew 19:26). Live in the Bible, let your heart be saturated with it. Faith will increase as your reading of the Word increases. As your faith increases your ability to find and trust promises will increase. As your trust and knowledge increase, your rest is assured.

The writer of Hebrews has been talking about faith and rest (4:1-11), then suddenly seems to change the subject in verse twelve to talking about the Bible. "**For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**"

There is really no transition here as it seems at first glance. It follows naturally, for our faith must come from learning of GOD through His written Word. "**The word of God is quick [living].**" That is a startling statement.

Look at your Bible. It seems like any other book in your library, but it is much more. It contains the very words of a living GOD dictated by the HOLY SPIRIT to holy men of old (II Peter 1:21). CHRIST said, "**The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life**" (John 6:63). To grow with GOD in this matter of finding His rest, we must know this living Word. "**The word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever,**" is Peter's description of the Bible (I Peter 1:23).

Second, the Word of GOD is active. It brings sharp convictions to the heart of those who read it. To unbelievers it might seem foolishness. Some may read and be convicted and turn away unhelped, while others read with an open heart, the conviction brings repentance and a changed life is the result.

Third, the Word is sharper than a knife. The writer must have thought of the weapons of his day but even they could not cut like GOD's Word. The Bible can do something that no knife can do. It can divide the soul and spirit, also the joints and marrow, which a surgeon cannot do.

Fourth, it is a "**discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**" There is nothing within us that the Bible cannot reach. It will touch every part of our lives as we let it. It will suddenly bring new comfort, or conviction of sin, or show us GOD's will.

Whatever our need, the Bible is always the answer for the Christian. Though it was written thousands of years ago and over a period of long years, it is as new and fresh today as when it was written because it is not the word of man but of God. A popular best seller book may sell thousands of copies, but in a few years the book is forgotten, because it was written by a man and has no active God-given power. A few books have lasted through many years but none has come anywhere near the duration of the Bible, the Book of Books.

If you haven't seen GOD's Word do a real work in your heart, then you have missed a priceless process. It must mean that you have not spent time with GOD through His Word or that you have hurried through your reading as a duty so fast that you haven't given it a chance to really speak to your heart. If perchance it has spoken and you have refused its conviction, you have missed great blessings.

Think of the hours that we spend reading magazines, newspapers and popular books that are old by tomorrow. Compare the time you spend in the Word which "**liveth and abideth forever.**" We have a friend who stands up to read the newspaper, a plan to keep him from spending too much time on temporal reading and assure him plenty of time to read the Bible. The more we read the more help we receive; the more help we get, the more we see the necessity of reading the Word. Gradually there will come a longing and a hunger for the things of GOD. That can only be satisfied as we fellowship with Him through His Word (Matthew 5:6).

I believe that in spite of the high cost of Bibles and the natural tendency to take special care of our Bibles, every Christian should wear out a Bible in a few years if it is being used as it should be. Take a look at your Bible. What is its condition? How long have you owned that Bible? Are the leaves fresh and clean and the edges as unworn as when you bought it? Then you know what I am thinking. Don't be afraid to carefully mark verses, to add notes that have been a help in understanding. Bibles are to be used, not preserved.

If you see that you have not been spending enough time in reading and studying the Bible, or it has been done in a hurry as a sense of duty, confess it to GOD. He already knows it anyway. Ask Him to increase your hunger for His Word. When one of our daughters was sick, the doctor said that it was necessary to force liquids. She was so small that she couldn't understand why this was necessary. She just wasn't thirsty. He suggested that we give her pretzels because of the salt on

the outside which would make her thirsty. It worked. Start doing the things that will naturally lead you to more of a desire to live by the Word. Stop doing things that you know are taking away your interest in the things of the Lord. There may be many doubtful things that are all right in themselves but they might be taking the time and the appetite that you should have for the Bible. With your change of attitude, GOD's help, and the results you see from more of the Bible, you will soon find a real hunger for more knowledge of the Word and thus of GOD.

We have seen by now that we fail to enter into GOD's rest because of unbelief. We must trust GOD to keep His promises to have that rest. We can only learn what He has promised as we learn His Word.

In nearly every meeting I attend some of those present give precious promises from the Word that they have memorized. We can glibly quote hundreds of verses, you know, but often never really claim them as our very own. I am sure that many of the verses I have memorized have never been fulfilled in me because they have never been rested upon and claimed.

The minute we find a promise and "put our foot on it" so to speak, just that time it really becomes ours. Even though the children of Israel were promised the land of Canaan, it never became theirs until they put their feet on the soil. We have to step out in undoubting faith on a promise of GOD although we might at first feel very unnatural. The Bible is full of promises that will meet our every need, but we must plant our feet on them to make them our very own.

A number of places where we do business have a rubber stamp which prints only one word, "Unclaimed." At the cleaners, when garments are left over six weeks they are marked, "Unclaimed." The shoe repairman will keep shoes only for a month and then they are marked the same way.

My husband sends a welcome letter to everyone who visits our church. Naturally some addresses are incomplete or wrong. The post office sends them back to the church office with "Unclaimed" stamped on them. I wonder what our Bibles would look like if GOD went through them and marked all the promises that we have never claimed. Maybe it would wake us up to the fact that we are missing the greatest rest and peace that He can offer in this life.

You can enter into rest immediately as you step onto GOD's promises and obey Him. Or, you can wander around in the "**land of Canaan**" and look wistfully into rest and see others enjoying it. Right now you can step across the line into the land of rest and peace as definitely as you step into a room. You are the one who decides. GOD never forces His children. He only waits with longing heart for us to come.

Once you have decided to leave everything in GOD's hand, trusting Him to work according to His promises, you will find a rest that nothing can ruffle. No matter how black the future, how uncertain your circumstances or how peculiar your friends may think you, you can sit quietly by in perfect peace and rest.

We have seen this work so wonderfully in the past few weeks for us. For a number of reasons we need a larger house and have had little success in finding one that is in our price range. Suddenly, seemingly by human accident, a new house went on the market that was just what we

needed. Our relatives and friends wanted us to sign for it the very first day we saw it. We waited on the Lord and told the relatives that if the Lord wanted us to have the house, He would see that it was saved for us. We were both finally convinced that it was the house the Lord wanted for us though it cost more than we had originally planned to pay. But when we went to the real estate office we found that it had been sold. In spite of that, we still felt that the house was for us and that the Lord would let us have it.

Five days later, the office called and said that the sale had fallen through and the owner would like us to make a bid. We now have the house contract. Even though our house hasn't been sold, we have the same peace and rest about it; we know that GOD will meet that need too in time to make settlement on the new one.

The relatives and the personnel of the real estate office think we are a little strange to be so calm about the deal. But we know that we have taken GOD's will step by step and, resting on His promises, we know that He will not leave us without meeting every need. That is real rest! He may test us by making us wait until the last day, but we can be at perfect peace because it is all left in His hands.

For physical reasons it was almost impossible for me to sleep one night. As a result it was hard to finish writing this chapter. In my morning prayer I asked GOD for a promise that would sustain me through the day. Then as I waited, He said, "**They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength**" (Isaiah 40:31).

**"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you"** (I Peter 5:7). Just let go the straining and struggle, give up, quit.

- Forget your self-efforts and let GOD work for you.
- Accept by faith what He says and live like you really believe.
- Take your eyes off your small faith and put them on the GOD of faith and it will grow.

It is not the amount of faith that counts but the One in Whom we place our faith. We enter into our salvation rest the day we take the Lord JESUS CHRIST as Saviour. This is a possession that comes entirely as a gift and it can never be taken away from us. We enter into the daily experience of rest also by faith. This comes as we trust GOD to do all that He has promised. Even though the Bible is full of promises to meet our needs, they only become ours as we claim them for our own.

"Trust and obey, for there's no other way,  
To be happy in Jesus,  
But to trust and obey."

There is no other way to a life of rest and peace, either.

~ end of chapter 10 ~

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