

Make Ready A People

#0791

Study given by W.D. Frazee

Our text this evening is found in Luke, the 1st chapter, verses 76-80. These are the prophetic words spoken concerning John the Baptist, the forerunner of our Lord. When we remember that our work today is like his, that we are to prepare a people for the second coming of Jesus as He prepared the people for the first coming, this text assumes special importance. I read:

“And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace” Luke 1:76-79.

And Luke adds:

“And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his showing unto Israel” Luke 1:80.

I want to ask, Would you be willing to be hid away in the deserts in order that you might be prepared to do a work like this? That day of showing unto Israel is hastening on a pace, and God will have some people prepared to give the loud cry today, as He had John prepared back there, and it will take a preparation such as John had to do a work such as he did.

Oh, I thank God for our glorious opportunity, friends, and it makes me so happy to see these children and young people growing up in this wonderful program of true Christian education, learning the Word of God, the works of God in nature, learning to work *with* God in daily life, and learning to trace through the lesson book of His providence the message of love.

Those were the things that John learned and those are the things that God's children today are learning who are preparing for the last work in the plan of salvation.

Now, I want to notice especially what is said here in the last part of the 79th verse. Concerning John, the prophetic word was that his work would be:

“...to guide our feet into the way of peace” Luke 1:79.

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Do you know the way of peace? If you are to guide others into that way, you must know it yourself. I like to think of peace in the body—that is, harmony. Stomach and liver and lungs, all working together—that means health. I like to think of peace in the mind—that's happiness. I like to think of peace in the spirit—harmony with God—a life that flows along parallel with the life of the eternal. The way of peace includes all that—health of body, happiness of mind, victory over every sin—a body, a mind, a character, in harmony with the divine will. That is the way of peace.

Now, I want to give you tonight the formula for that. You'll find it in the book of Isaiah, the 26th chapter, the 3rd verse—Isaiah 26, verse 3:

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in Thee” Isaiah 26:3.

This is the formula for what kind of peace? Perfect peace. And you can't get any better than that. And the whole secret is in this verse:

“Thou wilt keep him...” Isaiah 26:3.

The Thou is God. God is the one who keeps us in peace, and He will keep us in perfect peace if what? Our mind is stayed on Him. So peace, according to the Word of God, is not based on circumstances. It, rather, comes from looking to God. Not in our surroundings, but in Him is peace.

Now, I suppose we would all agree with that statement—none would argue about it—but do you know, it's one of the most difficult things God has to accomplish, is to get you and me to believe it in a practical way. So I'd like to have us meditate on that for a little while tonight in this vesper hour—the experience of keeping the mind stayed on God, and thereby achieving and receiving perfect peace—perfect peace.

The world today is the supreme example of the exact opposite of this. It is filled with unrest, war, strife. The booming of the guns that we hear around the world from time to time—that is but one of many manifestations of this lack of peace that afflicts the world. The divorce courts are running overtime trying to keep up with another manifestation of this lack of peace.

But whatever the thing that is causing the unrest, the lack of peace, out in the world, you and I can withdraw from the basic cause of all that lack of peace. That is simply this, my friends. Men are seeking to find peace by dealing with circumstances instead of looking to Him. That's the difficulty.

They're trying to find peace at the conference table, either by threats or compromise, and individuals are going to priests, trying to get peace, they're going to preachers trying to get peace, they're going to psychoanalysts trying to get peace, they're going to marriage counsellors trying to get peace, they're going to advisors of all kinds, hunting for peace.

Do you know some of the best selling books in America today are those that deal with this problem of peace and how to achieve it. Millions of people are buying those books that deal with what is supposed to be the recipe for peace and happiness and contentment. Some of them that are sold have some truth in them. I presume it would be hard to find a book that didn't have *some* truth in it, but my dear friends, the difficulty with so many of these different ideas is that they leave God—the true God—the only true God—out of it.

And the secret of peace is not found in our outward surroundings, neither is it found in the inner man, in his own efforts, in his own endeavors, in his own thoughts. The secret of peace is in Jesus, and there is no other, and this peace is not something that He gives apart from Himself. It is found only in Him.

Now, as I say, I'm sure that we would all agree with that before we sat down here tonight in this upper room, but I trust that God will help every one of us to take a new step tonight in entering into that way of peace the prophetic message is designed to guide our feet into. I hope every soul here tonight will have more peace when you go out.

Brother Foote was leading us a little while ago in that beautiful hymn which I love so much:

Peace, Perfect Peace, In this dark world of sin,
The blood of Jesus whispers, Peace within.
Peace, perfect peace, By thronging duties pressed,
To do the will of Jesus, This is rest...
Peace, perfect peace, Our future all unknown,
Jesus, we know, and He is on the throne.

Oh, that's it, friends, and I long that every one of us tonight shall enter into that abundant peace, that perfect rest, that Jesus has died to purchase for us, that Jesus lives to receive for us and impart to us moment by moment. He's living for that very purpose.

Perhaps, I can make it still clearer by dealing for a few moments with the negative side of it. In other words, having called our attention to what we are to look *to*, may I note what it is we are *not* to look to, and when I give you this list of four things, I think you will agree with me that these four things comprise the majority of the items that are taking the attention of the people of this world.

This little statement is found in *Steps to Christ*, page 71. These are the four things that Satan tries to divert the mind to.

“The pleasures of the world...” *Steps to Christ*, page 71.

That's number one.

“...life's cares and perplexities and sorrows...” *Steps to Christ*, page 71.

That's number two.

“...the faults of others...” *Steps to Christ*, page 71.

That's number three.

“...or your own faults and imperfections...” *Steps to Christ*, page 71.

That's number four.

“...to any or all of these he will seek to divert the mind” *Steps to Christ*, page 71.

That's the Devil's game. Did you ever get your mind on any one of those four things? Well, some people, if they gave a truthful answer—some people out in the world—might say, Did I ever have my mind on anything else *but* one or all of those four things.

Let's look at them again. Takes in about all there is to this world and to life as it is lived by 99 out of 100 people. The pleasures of the world—that's where most people would *like* to have their minds most of the time, but some of them are glad if they can earn enough by working hard all week to enjoy Saturday night and then spending Sunday getting over it so they can get back to work Monday morning. The pleasures of the world—nevertheless that's one thing they think about.

And then, life's cares and perplexities and sorrows. How am I going to pay the rent? How am I going to meet my installments on this, that and the other thing? And what am I going to do with the people that I live with that bother me to death? And you know, life's cares and perplexities and sorrows.

And then, the faults of others—oh, yes. This one got in my road, and another one told a lie about me. And this one is scheming and maneuvering against me. And that other fellow—I thought he was my friend but you should have heard what so and so said he heard somebody tell that that one told him about me. Makes me feel bad. The faults of others.

And then, your own faults or imperfections. Do your own faults burden you, my brother? Now, I shall not take time to study all of these, but I would like to direct you tonight, having surveyed the whole field, for this is the whole field—pleasures of the world, the cares of the world, the faults of others and your own faults—those are the great things that Satan seeks to divert the mind to—having looked at that whole field, two particular things that I wish to notice. I'll mention them in a moment.

You might be helped by a little illustration that Elder Warren used to give us. These four things you can think of with those four fingers—the pleasures of the world, the care of the world, the faults of others and your own faults—and over here's that thumb. That's the thing to keep the mind on, not these, but this.

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on *Thee*...” Isaiah 26:3.

Satan tries to do this, but don't look in that direction. Say, I'm going to look to Jesus. I'm not going to look to the pleasures of the world. Jesus is my joy and my song. I'm not going to be burdened with cares and perplexities.

“Casting all your care upon *him*; for he careth for you” 1 Peter 5:7.

I'm not going to mull over the faults of others. I'm going to leave them with Jesus. He says:

“...Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord” Romans 12:19.

And thank God, I'm not going to go moping and groaning and moaning all the way to the Father's house over my past sins. I'm going to leave them under the precious blood of Christ, who is abundantly able to cover them and cleanse me and blot them out forevermore.

And as I say, there are two particular things that I want to notice. Under this matter of cares, I'd like to notice what to some people is one of the greatest difficulties and greatest problems, and it's simply this—having your plans all upset—having your plans all upset. Did it ever happen to you?

Well, it did unless you are one of those people that never make any plans. There are people that say they have learned it's no use to make plans because they get upset anyway so they just don't make any. That is not the answer, friends, not the answer at all. I want to read you the answer in *Steps to Christ*, page 7.

“Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your very first work. Let your prayer be, “Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet” *Steps to Christ*, page 7.

If you don't have any, how can you pray that prayer? Now, will you tell me, if you don't have any plans, how could you pray that prayer? That would be an empty prayer, wouldn't it. That would be like saying, Lord, I'm going to lay all my money at your feet, but when He opens the purse there's not a penny in there.

Now, there may be some people whose heads are as empty of plans as the purse might be of money, but most people have some plans, and God does not want you to be discouraged in making plans. That's not the answer. That isn't the way to keep from being upset when your plans are upset. God wants you to make plans, but the very first thing He wants you to do in the morning, before you take up a single one of those plans and start to carry it out, is to do what with them? Lay them where? At His feet—lay them at His feet. All right.

Now, what for? This says, Surrender all your plans to Him to be carried out or given up, as His providence shall indicate. Now, what is the purpose of laying the plans down at His feet? So that one of two things will happen. They may be what? Carried out. Or they may have to be what? Given up.

Do you notice it says to be *given up*. God doesn't want to have to grab them away from you. He doesn't want to have to get you down and tie you up while he extracts them, no. He wants you to be in such a relation to Him that any plan that He sees is not the best can be what by you? Given up—given up. Would you give up one of your plans? Would you give up two of them?

Suppose you had 10 plans for the day. Would you be willing to give them *all* up, if His providence should indicate it? I wonder how God's providence indicates. Oh, if Jesus should come along and ask to borrow something of mine, as He sent Peter and John to borrow that colt that He rode into Jerusalem, sure, I'd be glad to do that, even if it meant a change in my plan.

But I'm not so sure about all the interruptions that all the other people make. I wish they wouldn't interfere. I get all my plans laid to get something done, and the telephone rings. Then I get settled down again, and you know what happens? There's a knock at the door. Could I see you for a minute? Some minutes have more than 60 seconds in them.

[Question.]

I said some minutes have more 60 seconds in them—I mean it seems that way. They don't really.

I wonder, dear friends, what it means to give up our plans as God's providence shall indicate. More and more, I'm fascinated with learning to read the book of God's providence. Our sister was talking about learning to read and teach Spanish, but here is a book that you can study all your life and there's still something more to learn about. It's the language of providence—how God's providence directs.

You know, I've just had one of the busiest weeks of my life, and I declare there were a number of things that I planned to do that never got done at all, but the thing I'm thankful for is all the things that I didn't plan at all that God's providence arranged, and I'm learning more and more to delight myself in the assurance that God knows His business.

I haven't quit laying plans. In fact, I have a little book in which I have plans for every day all written down, and did you know, it's surprising how many times at the end of the day I have to look at it and see the things that I planned to do that I didn't get done.

But, oh, I can rejoice in the things that happened instead of those plans that I had to lay aside—souls helped, problems solved, people finding help in Jesus. Why, friends, that's a lot more important than *my* being able at the close of the day to look over a desk with nothing on it and look over a book with every item checked off and say, That's fine. I got done everything I planned to do.

You know, the Bible says:

“...it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps” Jeremiah 10:23.

And that isn't talking just about the babies. It's talking about the grandpas, too. We do not know enough to even plan one day, and then stick to that plan no matter what.

Now, remember, I proved to you that that doesn't mean we shouldn't lay plans—we should—but we should lay plans, and then lay them where? At His feet. That's right. To be what? Carried out or given up as His providence shall indicate.

Now, suppose you had 10 plans, and five of them you carry out and five of them you have to give up. Well, you could be happy at least half the time, then, couldn't you. Or is that the best God can offer? Is it just the times when we get to carry out our plans—is that when we're happy?

What does our text say in Isaiah 26:3. Repeat it with me:

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in Thee” Isaiah 26:3.

Why, dear friends, of course it's a joy to carry out some plan we've laid, but listen. When we lovingly, trustfully, give up the plan that God's providence interferes with, and accept the new plan that He has laid, will that in any way detract from our happiness? Never, never, if our eyes are on Him.

Well, what *are* our plans? Watch. Our plans are simply the best thought we have on how to please Him. That's all. And if He turns and says to us, Well, my child, I do appreciate your thinking of doing that for me, but I have something else which I really need more right now. Would you be willing to do that?

Wouldn't it be too bad if I should say, No. I'm either going to do what I planned to please you, or else I won't do anything. I'm so anxious to please you that I insist on doing what I plan, to please you.

How ridiculous, yes, friends. It *is* ridiculous. Well, that's what a lot of people are doing—wearing their lives away *insisting* that the thing they figured out on how to please God gets done.

Brother Jensen, do you ever have any of your plans interfered with? Do you ever lay plans to get certain things fixed or repaired or built this week, and then a water pipe breaks or a fuse blows out or a roof springs a leak or somebody thinks up some new idea? Do any of those things ever happen? And you have to do what to some of your plans? Lay them down, as God's providence indicates.

Well, then is the time to have what kind of a face—a long face or a smiling face? What do you say? Why, is it a calamity, friends, to have our plans changed?

Why, do you know the best thing that can happen to us most of the time is to have our poor plans exchanged for better ones.

Well, somebody says, then why plan? Why, for the same reason that the children in school are solving problems—to get the practice—that’s all—to get the practice. We need to practice laying plans, but don’t be disappointed if the teacher says, Really, there’s a better plan than this one you figured out. Don’t be disappointed at that. Accept what the teacher suggests, and do it with a great smile, friends.

...never from now on going to complain about one interruption in our plans. What do you say, friends? But it can only be done as we believe in the overruling providence of a loving father who’s watching after all the details of our life and making all things work together for good.

Ministry of Healing, 473, says:

“Often our plans fail that God’s plans for us may succeed”
Ministry of Healing, page 473.

Isn’t that wonderful. Will you say it with me:

“Often our plans fail that God’s plans for us may succeed”
Ministry of Healing, page 473.

Now, the other point that I want to give you, and that will conclude our little study tonight. It has to do with that last point that Satan seeks to divert our minds to. Do you remember what that was? Our own faults—our own faults—our own failings. And I think that’s the Devil’s favorite with those who are sincerely trying to please God.

You know, it’s amazing how ingenious the Devil is, how he studies our character. Now, if he sees that there are people that have a taste for whiskey or they like to gamble, then he will arrange for them to have opportunities to indulge those things.

But if he sees people that have a genuine desire to get rid of sin and to hate sin and to get away from it and do right, the Devil will encourage them in a devilish sort of way. And by that, I mean this. He will say, Yes, you ought to get away from sin. Sin is now awful thing, a terrible thing, but the trouble with you is you’re just so full of it I don’t know how you’re ever going to do it. This is the Devil talking.

Yes, you ought to be good. You ought to be a lot better than you are. You ought to be like Jesus, but you’re not. Just think of all the failures you have made, think of all the weaknesses you have, and you’re finding more all the time, and the more you listen to the studies the worse you look to yourself. Don’t you see you’re not getting anywhere.

Who’s that talking? That’s the Devil. Did you ever hear him? Did he ever talk that way to you? And finally, a person begins to think, I wonder what’s the use of

listening to any more studies. I can't even keep up with the ones I've had. I wonder what's the use of finding out any more because the more I find out the worse I am, and it's discouraging.

Now, who's doing all that? The devil, and he's trying to divert our minds from where? From Jesus. He's trying to make the Christian life appear burdensome, and wearisome, and God knows, friends, if it's up to you and me to get rid of all our sins and to become like Jesus, it is a burdensome, wearisome thing, and if we had a thousand years, it wouldn't be long enough.

But, ah, friends, there's good news for us.

"Look unto me..." Isaiah 45:22.

Said Jesus.

"...and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" Isaiah 45:22.

You remember those poor people back there in the days of Moses that had murmured and complained and rebelled until finally God let the serpents bite them, and there they were, dying all over the camp—dying by the hundreds and the thousands.

And finally, when they cried to God, the Lord said, Moses, make a serpent of brass and put it up on a pole and tell all through the camp that, if anybody is bitten by the serpents, look to that serpent on the pole and he will live.

Well, how could that accomplish anything? Ah, friends, it could teach this precious lesson—that salvation from the bite of the old serpent can come only by looking to the one made in the likeness of sinful flesh, who hangs upon that cross—Jesus, the Son of God.

Oh, do you see that you're a sinner? Do you feel discouraged because of your weaknesses and failures? Does it wear your life away in the effort to reach the standard? Look away from yourself to Jesus. Resolutely, look away from yourself to Jesus.

You remember Peter walking on the water? When he turned his eyes off Jesus and began to look at himself and the waves and those around him, what happened? He sank in the water, and you will sink in the water of your own sinful tendencies, you'll drown in the billows of your own fears, unless you steadfastly look to Jesus.

Oh, look, friends, look—look at Jesus dying for you on the cross, living for you in the courts above. Let me share with you a beautiful statement. You know, generally, we think that prayer is about the best thing in a person's life, but I just found out the other day that even our prayers need cleansing, our very tears need washing. Our prayers aren't good enough to give to God. Did you know that?

Listen:

“The prayer and praise and confession of God's people ascend as sacrifices to the heavenly sanctuary. But they ascend not in spotless purity. Passing through the corrupt channels of humanity, they are so defiled...” *yi* April 16, 1903.

Your prayers, brother, your thanksgiving—

“...so defiled that unless purified by the righteousness of the great High Priest, they are not acceptable by God. Christ gathers into the censer the prayers, the praise, and the sacrifices of his people, and with these he puts the merits of his spotless righteousness. Then, perfumed with the incense of Christ's propitiation, our prayers, wholly and entirely acceptable, rise before God, and gracious answers are returned” *Youth's Instructor*, April 16, 1903.

Isn't that wonderful, friends. Well, if our very prayers have to be perfumed by His righteousness before they're acceptable, certainly our poor works have to be. Even our best efforts have to be covered by the righteousness of Jesus.

Do you see, friends, that our hope is not in rolling up a record of our own. It isn't in keeping a score card with so many red seals and gold stars of how many times we got the victory over our temper and how many times we've prayed and how many times we've studied. That isn't the way that we achieve righteousness. It comes as a free gift as we look where? To Jesus.

It's true we have our part to act in using that righteousness that He provides, but my point is, our peace, our satisfaction, our joy in the Lord, do not come from looking over what we've accomplished and thinking, Well, I guess I'm making it pretty well.

And, therefore, the absence of that—the inability to look over our record and find contentment there—must not deprive us of peace. Our peace comes in looking to Jesus. He is my righteousness, so I am righteous. He is my victory, so I am victorious. He is my peace, so there's a song in my heart.

Therefore, I will not look to my poor works, be they good or bad. I will not boast of my accomplishments. Neither will I mourn and groan over my past failures. I will hide in Jesus—I will hide in Jesus. He is my rock, and I will hide in Him.

Shall we bow our heads in prayer. Our heavenly Father, we thank Thee tonight for the mission of the prophet to guide our feet into the way of peace. We pray that we shall hear that voice from the desert that shall take us away from the busy turmoil of the multitudes.

May we find in repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ deliverance from all worry, all fear, all perplexity, all guilt, and dropping these heavy

burdens, may we find Thy burden light and Thy yoke easy. Oh, may we find in Jesus the answer to every question and the solution of every problem.

Just now, we place our little hands in Thy great hand. Just now, we resolutely turn our eyes from the disappointments and distractions of daily life, the faults of others and our own failings, and we fix them upon the Lamb of God, dying for us upon the cross, offered for us at the mercy seat, and we thank Thee in that blessed name, amen.

I wish we might have now a series of short, bright testimonies.

[Testimony meeting.]

[Comments made by Elder Frazee during testimony meeting.]

But suppose I did. Now, remember, I'm not asking you to raise your hands, but suppose that I should ask here tonight, How many of you have a dollar bill? How many of you have at least one dollar? Could all of you find out whether you had a dollar or not? Or would some of you say, Well, I wish I knew but, really, I don't know whether I've got a dollar with me or not.

You either know it right now or you could find out in two minutes, right? Yes. Well now, that's not my question. It's something infinitely more precious and more important. My question is this. Do you have this peace that we've been studying about tonight? Do you have it?

If you do, friends, thank God for it and don't lose it.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in Thee" Isaiah 26:3.

Now, suppose—back to the dollar—suppose I should say, Anybody that doesn't have a dollar—doesn't have a dollar to his name—if he'll come right up here, I'm going to give him a dollar, and I've got some more here in my pocket. If there's more than one, I'll give a dollar to the second man that comes up, third man. And if there was anybody so poor here that he didn't have a dollar, I imagine there'd be some people coming up here to get these, don't you?

Well, friends, the Lord Jesus is in the business of passing out peace, and He has plenty for everybody. If He's given you His peace and you've turned from the pleasures of the world and the cares of the world and the faults of others and your own faults, and you're looking to Him and finding joy and satisfaction in the Lord Jesus Christ, thank Him for it and tell others.

But listen. If you don't have that peace, if you're like the man without the dollar, I just feel that I want to give you an invitation to come up here and at the foot on the cross lay your burdens and cares and worries and sins and perplexities and anything that's keeping you from that peace—just lay it down at Jesus' feet.

If there's somebody like that here, wouldn't you like to come right down here now, and kneel down here at God's altar and just let Jesus take away the burden—that's right—just let Jesus take away the burden and give you His peace. He waits to do it, friends—He waits to do it. Wonderful Savior. Wonderful Lord.

Is there another weary one?

“Come unto me...” Matthew 11:28.

He says.

“...all ye that labour 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” Matthew 11:28-30.

Ah, yes, dear ones, come to Jesus. Come and find rest. Let every weary-hearted, heavy-burdened one, come and just tell Jesus all about it. Forget about this audience. Just look to Jesus, and be like those dear people back there that had been bitten by the serpent and looked where Jesus told them to look, and when they looked, what happened? They lived. When they looked, they lived.

Oh, wonderful Lord, wonderful Lord. Is there another that Jesus is calling, to find that rest, that peace, that freedom from distraction.

“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else” Isaiah 45:22.

Remember, friends, this is something personal between you and your Lord. Nobody can give it to you and nobody can take it away from you. Nobody can give it to you and nobody can take it away from you. Not all the men in this world, not all the devils in hell can rob you of it or keep you from it. You and Jesus can settle this thing.

He died to take your sins. He lives to hear your prayers, and to add the incense of His merits to every request of your heart.

“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you” 1 Peter 5:7.

Wonderful Lord. Is there another that Christ is calling? That's right. Just kneel there with Jesus.

Now, I wonder how many in this audience tonight would like to join with us here on the rostrum in earnest prayer that God will bless these seeking ones, and that He'll pour out such a blessing from the sanctuary that it will overflow and bless every one of us in this upper room tonight.

How many of us would like to ask God for that blessing for these and for your heart.

Elder Tindall, will you pray for us and for these dear ones.

Elder Tindall: Our heavenly Father, we all have a goal set before us, and that goal is perfection, and we all want to reach it. And Thou hast said, When it is in the heart to obey God, when efforts are put forth in that direction, Thou wilt make up for the deficiency with Thine own divine merits.

We thank Thee for this, our heavenly Father, and dear Lord, I pray that while we see the beauty of looking to Jesus, help us to appropriate, I pray Thee, the righteousness of Christ. Help us, I pray, to realize as He came here in this world, and that as He overcame every temptation, He came here to show us how we could overcome. He trusted in His Father. He left it with God.

Our heavenly Father, we have inherited and cultivated tendencies, and indeed the closer we get to God, the more imperfect we see ourselves. We know that we're not perfect, but our dear Lord, we present to Thee, One that is perfect. We present Jesus to Thee with His infinite record.

And Lord, we accept by faith that righteousness. That is our goal. We believe in it, and we believe, dear Lord, that Thou dost make up for all our deficiencies with Thine own divine merit.

Help these dear ones here. Tomorrow morning is the most important question that can come to these dear ones that we have—it's not just a question of their work or where they should be nor their circumstances—but this question of their own relation to God. We pray that the Holy Spirit would help them to see how wonderful is the plan of God. And the most ignorant, the most wicked, can find peace in Jesus, and we pray that Thou wilt help them to understand this.

Help them, I pray, to accept Jesus anew. Help them, dear Lord, to believe in God's plan just as it was in the first place, when we were sinners and without God, we came to Thee and we confessed our sins, we accepted Jesus as our Savior. The Holy Spirit came upon our hearts. We gave ourselves away to Thee. And dear Lord, oh, what joy, what gladness, filled our souls.

Dear Lord, this must be our constant experience. This must be the experience tonight, and we pray that everybody in this room will have this experience—that they'll make that surrender—and God help them to make it—and dear Lord, that they will accept Jesus and they will cease to look upon their own defects of character or the defects of others or the problems facing them or the future, or whatever it may be. Help them, I pray Thee, to rest in Jesus and to lay themselves and all their problems at His feet and leave them there, and we thank Thee for it.

We pray Thy blessing upon each dear one that has come to this altar. We pray that the Holy Spirit will seek to verify and give them that perfect peace which passeth knowledge. We ask it in the name of Jesus and we thank Thee for hearing us, amen.

Elder Frazee: Just stand, please. Let's sing a stanza of Wonderful Peace.

[Singing.]

Far away in the depths of my spirit tonight,
Rolls a melody sweeter than psalm,
In celestial-like strains it unceasingly falls,
O'er my soul like an infinite calm.
Peace, peace, wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father above,
Sweep over my spirit forever, I pray,
In fathomless billows of love.

What a treasure I have in this wonderful peace,
Buried deep in my innermost soul,
So secure that no power can mine it away,
While the years of eternity roll.
Peace, peace, wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father above,
Sweep over my spirit forever, I pray,
In fathomless billows of love.

I am resting tonight in this wonderful peace,
Resting sweetly in Jesus' control,
I am kept from all danger by night and by day,
And His glory is flooding my soul.
Peace, peace, wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father above,
Sweep over my spirit forever, I pray,
In fathomless billows of love.

I believe when I rise to that city of peace,
Where the Author of peace I shall see,
That one strain of the song which the ransomed will sing,
In that heavenly kingdom will be,
Peace, peace, wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father above,
Sweep over my spirit forever, I pray,
In fathomless billows of love.

Weary soul, without gladness or comfort or rest,
Passing down the rough pathway of time,
Make the Savior your friend ere the shadows grow dark,
O accept of this peace so sublime.
Peace, peace, wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father above,
Sweep over my spirit forever, I pray,
In fathomless billows of love.

Keep telling others, pray with others, witness to others. Let this be the
greatest Sabbath of peace and love and thanksgiving that we've ever spent.

The ordinance is at five o'clock tomorrow. Don't forget. It will be a special feast.

Elder Tindall: If there's ought between you and anybody, be sure that you go to them, and be sure that it's all well with your soul and everybody else.

Elder Frazee: You're dismissed. God bless you.

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