Wanna Get Away? 4 - 07/31/11

<u>Matthew 11:28-30</u> - Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to *take a real rest*. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.

Climbing the ladder of acceptance with God.

No matter how high you climb, there is always another rung.

Law of God reveals the righteousness of God and the unrighteousness of man.

We will always maintain a position that God is waiting to act on my behalf when I meet the standard of perceived acceptance with God. The problem is that this is never able to be achieved through human effort, but only through Christ.

We must have Rest

- 1. In our Relationship with God
- 2. Within Ourselves
- 3. In our Relationships with Others
- 4. In any and all Circumstances

It is impossible to gain **REST** – *Within ourselves*, *in our relationship with others* and *in any and all circumstances* in the absence of having rest in our *relationship with God*.

Rest in Any and All Circumstances

When we don't have the REST OF GOD or PEACE WITH GOD, we will always assume the absence of God in our difficulties and circumstances.

Jesus Promises Peace and Rest:

<u>John 14:27</u> - Peace I leave with you; *My own peace I now give and bequeath to you*. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let or permit your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful, intimidated, cowardly and unsettled.]

The "Peace" the world gives is conditional and based upon present circumstances.

What kind of peace did Jesus have in troubled circumstances?

Mark 4:35-41 -

- 35 On the same day, when evening had come; He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side."
- 36 Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him.
 - 37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.

- 38 But He was in the stern, *asleep on a pillow*. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"
- 39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.
 - 40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"
- 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Once he spoke, "Let us go to the other side," he rested in the plan of God for his life.

Asleep in the boat.

What must it have sounded like to him when they said, "Don't you care if we perish?" when he was soon to die for them.

The first thing he did on the other side was deliver the madman of Gadara.

On the other side of your rest in God lies not only your freedom, but the freedom of those around whom God intends for you to impact.

What kind of rest does God intend us to have?

Psalm 46:1-2 -

- 1 God is our refuge and strength, a *very present help* in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, **even though** the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

HOW DO WE WALK IN THIS REST?

Philippians 4:4-9,13,19 -

- 4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!
- 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.
- 6 Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in **every circumstance and in everything**, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God.
- 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things.
- 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me-put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.
- 13 I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; *I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency*].
 - 19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:31-39 -

- 31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? *If God is for us, who can stand successfully against us*?
- 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all-how will he not also, along with giving Him, *freely give us all things*?

- 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.
- 34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died-more than that, who was raised to life-is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.
- 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?
- 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."
- 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
- 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,
- 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.