

PRESENT "P"

By Keith Greer

Today we want to examine three "P's" that are present in a Christian's life:

Pardon. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." {Isaiah 55:7}

God is merciful to, and forgiving of, all sinners. He graciously pardons our transgressions, if we repent and turn away from them. God does not want one soul to be lost; He wants all to come to repentance so they can be saved {1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9}. This loving pardon is obtainable only while we live on earth. Death takes with it the opportunity for pardon.

Peace. "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation." {Ephesians 2:14}

Sinners are God's enemies and are at war with Him. Only through the blood of Christ can we return to a proper relationship with God. Unless we accept it on the terms God offers us, we will never know peace. Sadly, many search for lasting peace where it is not to be found-in a bottle, drugs or relationships. Only God can give us true peace.

Purity. "Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works." {Titus 2:13,14}

All have sinned and separated themselves from God. {Isaiah 59:1,2; Romans 3:23} Sin stains our souls. Unless man removes the sin stains (the condemnation that will cause him to be eternally lost), the only thing waiting for his guilty soul is eternal spiritual death. {Romans 6:23} Purity is made possible when we wash in the blood of Christ. {Revelation 1:5} God's people have continual access to this blood. "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." {1 John 1:7} Every sin can be purged, and this state of purity can be forever maintained by one continuing to walk in the light of God's truth. Dear reader, have you been pardoned, do you have peace and are you remaining pure? ***