

At times life can be remarkably demanding and confusing. When Jesus saw a crowd, He had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless – just as so many of us feel this day about whatever situation we may find ourselves in.

Consider this benediction from the Book of Hebrews. It's a very good word!

“Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.”(Hebrews 13:20-21)

There is so much that is hopeful and comforting in this word. In the midst of the turmoil of life we see our God:

Is a God of peace.

Brought Jesus back from the dead.

Will make us complete in everything good!

For us this means we may do that which is pleasing in God's sight knowing that through our trust in Jesus He will bring us back from the dead. Indeed a very good word!

So in the midst of whatever is happening in your life this day, allow this benediction to refresh your spirit and rekindle your hope as this day you serve the Lord who loves you.

With joy – E. Stanley Ott, May 24, 2011 Vol. 10, No. 16, A VERY GOOD WORD

Prayer Suggestions

- With joy in your heart and gratitude on your lips, praise our Lord Jesus Christ for bringing us comfort and hope “in the midst of the turmoil of life.”
- Give thanks and praise to God Our Father, who makes us complete in everything good.
- Pray for the innocent citizens of Mosul and other hotbeds of the Middle East. Ask blessings and mercy for them as they flee to safety. Pray for those who set up refugee camps to shelter them.
- Pray for those who never have enough to eat.
- Pray for those who hunger and thirst for more meaning in their lives. Pray that they will come to know the Lord. Pray that God will show you how to light their way on this journey.
- Lift up all Americans who will soon go to the polls to decide who will lead our great country in the coming years. Ask for true discernment and wisdom in their choices, whether for local and state government, U.S. Senate and Congress, or the U.S. Presidency.
- Pray for the First Presbyterian Church of Sebastian, as we approach our 30th Anniversary. May we continue to be a vital and active beacon of the Lord's light, shining through our church family and out into the community.
- Lift up those in our church who daily deal with ill health, who are facing surgery, who endure pain or uncertainty.
- Ask for blessings for Pastor Jeff, as he carefully and skillfully shepherds us along God's chosen path for us.
- Pray that we shall always strive *to know Christ and to make Christ known.*

