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PEACE IN OUR TIME, O LORD

The Blessing of Holiness

by BILL MARKHAM Co-Host, The 700 Club Canada



Holiness is often misunderstood as a rigid list of rules—things to do or to avoid to be "good enough" for God.

But holiness isn't about perfection. If it were, we'd all fail! The Old Testament proves that no one can flawlessly follow every rule. If holiness was about earning God's approval, we would never measure up. But here's the good news: We don't have to.

God calls us to be holy because He is holy (see 1 Peter 1:16), not to prove ourselves, but because we already belong to Him. We are created in His image—sacred, set apart, and worth protecting. Holiness isn't about restriction; it's about restoration. It's about living as God designed us—whole and full of purpose. Think of it like this: As a father, I protected my daughter from bad influences not because I didn't trust her, but because I didn't trust them. In the same way, God calls us to holiness to protect us, not limit us. Holiness isn't a burden; it's a safeguard against what steals our peace, joy, and identity.

When we see holiness this way, everything changes. It's not about what we can't do, but what we get to do—living fully in purpose and bringing God's kingdom to earth. Holiness isn't about striving for perfection; it's about embracing who you were created to be. And that's the most freeing life you can live.

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DEVOTIONAL

God Uses the Faithful



rom the other end of our house, I could hear Dorothy singing, "Oh, what needless pain we bear—all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer" as she did chores. Her joyful presence overflows my early childhood memories.

Prolonged illness prevented my mother from most maternal duties, but God provided Dorothy. She arrived early each weekday, got us up, made breakfast, sent us to school, cared for my mother and our home, and prepared dinner we warmed up at night. If I could turn back time, or if she were still alive, I'd love to wish Dorothy a "Happy Mother's Day" with a beautiful bouquet. Only later did I grasp her impact on my life. God used her kind, patient nature to plant seeds of His love in my heart. I am eternally grateful.

God often uses His faithfulness to influence children. For me, it was Dorothy. For Samuel, it was Eli. His mother, Hannah, prayed, "If you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you. He will be yours for his entire lifetime" (1 Samuel 1:11 NLT). She honoured her vow, and Eli's home became the foundation for Samuel's faith.

Mother's Day is a time to honour mothers and those who love as mothers. Let's take time to notice and thank those who have blessed us with nurturing love. We may never know whose heart benefits from our faithfulness to Jesus Christ, but He does. May our joy in the Lord draw others to Him!



PEACE IN OUR TIME, O LORD

BY ANDREW BURDITT

President, The Christian Broadcasting Associates



If you were to take a poll of people in Canada and even those around the world, I think you would find that the majority of those you speak to would consider their lives to be successful if they were surrounded by the love of others and had the opportunity to work hard and earn a decent living to provide for their family.

They don't seek the limelight and are interested in a simple life with no desire to get involved in matters beyond their communities, towns, and cities. Besides their family, they are happy to serve those around them, volunteer their time to help others, and as believers, follow God's leading.

However, despite our best efforts, the world remains a complicated place, full of conflict and war, a complicated political landscape, and as a result, our economy continues to be affected. Just as inflation started to subside, prices are now rising again, making that dream of a simple life so much more difficult.

As Christians, even with the knowledge that God is in control, we sometimes feel helpless and ask, "What can we do?" The answer to that

question is simple—we can pray.

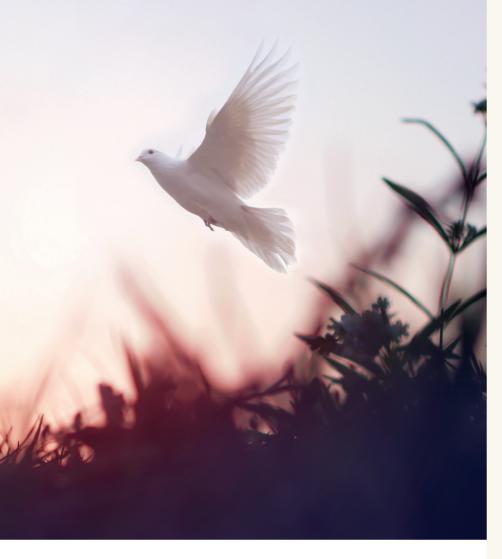
We know from Scripture that God never changes, so we trust Him, pray for guidance, follow His path for our lives, and then do what He asks.

We must pray for calm, for peace, for justice, and for the hearts of many to be softened so that they will hear when God speaks to them.

First Timothy 2:1-2 provides instruction on this: I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness (NIV).

John Oxenham, an English journalist, penned a hymn that helps us understand how to hope, pray, and work towards that peace.

Peace in our time, O Lord,
To all the peoples—peace!
Peace surely based upon Thy will
And built in righteousness.
Thy power alone can break
The fetters that enchain
The sorely stricken soul of life



And make it live again.
Too long mistrust and fear
Have held our souls in thrall;
Sweep through the earth, keen Breath of Heav'n
And sound a nobler call!
Come, as Thou didst of old,
In love so great that men
Shall cast aside all other gods
And turn to Thee again.

Peace in our time, O Lord,
To all the peoples—peace!
Peace that shall build a glad new world,
And make for life's increase.
O living Christ, Who still
Dost all our burdens share,
Come now and dwell within the hearts
Of all men everywhere.

May God bless you as you seek that inward **peace** that comes from welcoming Christ into our lives, as well as relational peace in our homes, neighbourhoods, workplaces, and throughout the world.

THE 700 CLUB CANADA

Season of Transformation

by EMILY JAMES
Co-Host, The 700 Club Canada



If you aren't a winter person, you're probably welcoming this new season with open arms! Spring is a time

of transformation. The cold, barren landscape gradually gives way to fresh blooms, longer days, and the warmth of new life. Change is everywhere, and whether we embrace it with excitement or hesitation, we all go through it.

At our core, we long for a deeper kind of change, one that renews our hearts. The Bible calls this process sanctification, the ongoing work of God shaping us into His image.

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:18 NIV).

Just as flowers don't bloom overnight, spiritual growth takes time. Here are two key truths about transformation:

Growth takes time: Transformation rarely happens overnight, but God is always at work, shaping us little by little. Even when we don't see immediate results, we can trust that He is cultivating something beautiful in us. Are we willing to surrender and let Him work in His perfect timing?

God's Word brings renewal: When we immerse ourselves in God's Word, our thinking is transformed. The more we align our hearts with His promises, the more we experience the freedom and change He desires for us.

As spring unfolds, may it remind us, transformation isn't just possible, it's His promise. Let's trust Him to renew us from the inside out.

NEED PRAYER?
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THE DOUBLE LIFE OF "RICO SUAVE"

Gerardo Mejia became an overnight superstar with his hit "Rico Suave"—living a lifestyle that matched his on-stage personality. But his infidelity and fast living did damage to his relationship with his wife. Watch to see how God changed his heart—and his marriage.



REHAB AND REDEMPTION

A bitter divorce sent April's life spinning into a tailspin, leading her to use drugs to numb the pain. She begged God to free her from her addiction—but it wasn't until she gave her life to Christ that she began to see the change she wanted. You won't want to miss her inspiring story.



FREEDOM THROUGH GOD'S LOVE

Abandoned by his father while growing up in the projects, Eric was desperate for a better life. But when his business associates became involved in shady dealings, and his son went missing, Eric took matters into his own hands and wound up in prison. This is one testimony you will want to hear.



A NEARLY FATAL LIFESTYLE

A sense of unworthiness left Laurynn desperate for love and led her into multiple same-sex relationships. Eventually an unsuccessful suicide attempt brought her to a realization—and changed everything. Wait until you hear how her life turned around.

JOIN US EVERY WEEKDAY

Watch The 700 Club Canada Weekdays:

- VisionTV Nationwide 10:30 a.m. EDT
- FaithTV Nationwide 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. CDT
- JoyTV 10 Vancouver1:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. PDT
- The Miracle Channel
 9:30 a.m. MDT



Watch The 700 Club With Gordon Robertson Weekdays:

- JoyTV 10 Vancouver 11:00 a.m. PDT
- CBS KREM Spokane 9:00 a.m. PDT
- WUTV TV29 Buffalo 10:00 a.m. EDT
- WNYO TV49 Buffalo 1:00 p.m. EDT
- WMYD Detroit Southwestern Ontario

9:00 a.m. EDT



CHECK YOUR LOCAL LISTING FOR CHANNELS AND TIMES IN YOUR AREA.



May is Leave a Legacy Month in Canada. What will your legacy say? How will you be remembered?

Each day, we contribute to the story we'll leave behind—
a story that transforms loved ones, our community, and the world.

This isn't just about wealth or an inheritance; it's about crafting a lasting legacy. Contact Advisors with Purpose at plan@advisorswithpurpose.ca or 1.866.336.3315 to start your journey. Free • Confidential • No Obligation

You are invited to a webinar about how your Will can help you tell your story on May 28 at 8 p.m. ET. Register at register@advisorswithpurpose.ca.

THE BLESSING OF BELIEVING



By Gordon Robertson
President and CEO

After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His disciples—but Thomas was not with them. When the others told Thomas they'd seen the Lord, he famously replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side" (John 20:25).

But eight days later, Thomas was with the disciples in a locked room when Jesus suddenly stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!" (v. 26-27).

This is His invitation to us, as well. In your spirit and your prayer life, you can ask, "God, can I reach my finger here? Can I see You for who You really are? Can I see Your wounds? Can I know the fellowship of Your suffering?" (See Philippians 3:10.)

God will answer that prayer, and you will understand His promise in Isaiah 49:16 (NKJV), "See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands."

That wound of Jesus has your name on it. He knows you, He died for you, He forgives you, and He calls you by name.

When Thomas saw the risen Christ with his own eyes, he exclaimed, "*My Lord and my God!*" Then Jesus responded, "*You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me*" (John 20:28-29).

And right after narrating Thomas's story, the Apostle John explains why he wrote his Gospel: These are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name (v. 31).

As you believe in Jesus, may you be filled with His life, power, and blessings today and always.

Excerpted from a teaching on *The 700 Club*. Scripture is from the NLT, except as noted.



Being a mom is a rewarding—and sometimes overwhelming—journey. Whether you're celebrating this season with joy or navigating challenges, you are not alone.

We want to bless you with our *Prayer Guide for Mothers*—a collection of prayers that are designed to inspire you in every stage of motherhood. Along with this, you'll receive a *Mother's Day Brunch Recipe Card*—because you deserve a special treat.

This gift is absolutely free. Visit 700Club.ca/Mom to sign up and receive your copy.

Moms, you are loved, cherished, and covered in prayer. Let us encourage you this Mother's Day!



