



Daily Devotion



*"Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ."
Romans 10:17*

The forgiveness of sins, which alone grants joy, (comes) only through the Word or only through hearing. For if you tortured yourself to death, if you shed your blood, if with ready heart you underwent and bore everything that is humanly possible--all this would not help you. Only hearing brings joy. This is the only way for the heart to find peace before God. **Martin Luther**

If there was something that we could do to gain peace with God, then our salvation would not be through faith. Then everything Jesus did for us would have no value. Then it would not matter if God was merciful or if He had a heart that was cruel and barbaric. How desperate we would be if faith, Christ, and mercy had little or nothing to do with how God saw us!

But quite the contrary, peace with God, life and salvation have nothing to do with our works, but everything to do with our ears. We do not work, we listen. Hearing and faith belong together. Through the Word of Christ we hear, God forgives us and gives peace to our heart. Thus we may live with confidence toward Him and not in doubt and fear.

*Open my ears, O Lord, to hear with joy that You are at peace with me,
and that Your mercy and forgiveness for me are not of my making, but are
for the sake of Jesus Christ alone. Amen.*