
"A man weighted with the sins of his parents, grandparents, great grandparents, who fade off into the dim spectral past. No word of choice has he in the selection of his father and mother, no voice in the choosing of his environment - brought into life without his consent, and thrust out of it against his will. Battling, striving, hoping, cursing, waiting, loving, praying; burned up with fever, torn by passion, checked by fear, reaching for friendship, longing for sympathy, clutching - nothing".

Byron

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee" Isaiah 26:3

"PEACE OF MIND"

* * Rabbi Liebman opens his first chapter *in his now famous book entitled -* by telling how once when very young he drew up a catalogue of desirable things in life. Inventory contained; health, love, beauty, talent, power, riches, fame. Showed list to old and wise friend with words, "This is the sum of mortal goods. Could a man possess them all he would be as a god". His answer.

Reminds one of words of Isaiah. Literary beauty but more than that. Listen! He was surrounded by disaster and panic. Sees his world plunged into catastrophe. Indeed, a world very much like ours - society trembling on brink of apparent chaos. But this man remains calm and strangely unafraid. In midst of terror and uncertainty he knows a peace of mind - an inner serenity.

Dr. Bob Lang - "They have a serenity"

Two Lines of Testimony

Isaiah knew secret of inner peace. He had discovered the answer to the universal quest. For mark you, this is the universal quest - to find an unwearied inner peace. The prayers of humanity through the ages can be reduced to two basic petitions - for bread and inward peace.

According to T. S. Eliot, contemporary man is afraid. Stricken by psychic anxieties, emotional conflicts, economic insecurities, political doubts and cynicisms. Needs something to carry him through new dangers and courage to face the old dangers. Needs a spiritual stability, an inner equilibrium, a peace of mind - a spiritual serenity.