



15 May 2026

## WHERE IS IT?

When was the last time something went missing—your keys, cell phone, tool, book? Did you respond with “Where did it go? Who moved it?”, or even, “Who took it? Who stole it?”

I’ve been there too. Sometimes I found the missing thing quickly, other times not for a long time, and a few times I never found it.

Then there are times when we lose immaterial things. Someone once quipped, “My motivation got lost—left no forwarding address.”

One writer tells us,

“I seem to have lost my sense of humor. The problem is, I can’t remember quite where or when I lost it ... after an exhaustive search I have determined it is nowhere on my person or in my house ... it just seems to have vanished. So, if you happen to see a sense of humor around that fits that description, please let me know.”

One of the things that we can lose is peace. Yes, we know that Jesus told us,

“Peace I leave you, My peace I give you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful” (John 14:27).

We also know the wonderful, beautiful promise God gives us through the apostle Paul,

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7).

In our fast paced, confusing, chaotic world we may think all of that, or someone injuring us has stolen our peace. The reality is that Jesus’ perfect peace which He gives us—the harmony, wholeness, being as we ought to be—cannot be stolen from us.



But when we lose our focus on Jesus, when we forget to actively be dependent on Him, we can walk away from His peace and so be troubled and fearful. Take in, think about the song that opens Isaiah chapter 26,

“The steadfast of mind You [God] will keep in perfect peace, because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever, for in GOD the LORD, we have an everlasting Rock” (3-4).

Recall that this beautiful promise came to God’s people who had been warned of coming judgment because of their sinful ways, their turning away from God. The phrase “perfect peace” is *shalom shalom*—“peace peace.” That doubling of the word intensifies it. It is more than a “double peace.” It refers to a complete peace, a complete wholeness, a complete state of being as you ought to be. This is the nature of the peace that Jesus promised, that He gives.

Experiencing the fulness of God’s peace requires being “steadfast of mind”, of having an unshakeable, unwavering commitment to God regardless of your circumstances, even when they are the worst of the worse. I think of Job. He lost his wealth, family and health, but he was steadfast of mind, his faith did not waver. Our perfect example, of course, is Jesus. As the time of His sacrifice for us, His death, drew closer, Luke’s gospel tells us, “He was determined to go to Jerusalem” (Luke 9:51). Jesus did not waver. He was unwavering in His determination to complete His mission on the cross.

Having a truly steadfast mind is not gritting your teeth self-determination. Isaiah tells us, “because he trusts in You [God].” The truly steadfast mind is having a whole-hearted, unwavering trust in God, and in His loving, providential care for you, your family and friends, for all your circumstances. In contrast, recall Peter answering Jesus’ invitation and stepping out of the boat walking on the stormy waves. When he took his eyes off Jesus, when he wavered in his trust, he started to sink.

The one who steadfastly trusts in God will never lose experiencing God’s perfect peace. Once again, take in those familiar words from Paul,

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7).

*Pastor Lyle*