Missing the Most Important Blessing on Earth

The most important blessing of all is eternity in heaven with Jesus. The most important blessing *on earth, while we are still here,* might be debatable. But certainly, one of, if not *the* most important blessing in the here and now, is *God's presence with us*. Even if all else is hunky dory, without God's presence we are little more than a log, adrift in the vast universe.

There are several things required to keep God's presence with us, but after we are converted and this "in Christ where salvation is (II Timothy 2:10) and where all spiritual blessings are (Ephesians 1:3), one vital daily requirement comes into crystal clear focus - Philippians 4:4-8:

> **4** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!
>
> **5** Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all men. The Lord is near.
>
> **6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
>
> **7** And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
>
> **8** Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.
>
> **9** The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, **and the God of peace will be with you.** (Emphasis supplied.)

Notice that there is a string of imperative verbs here. Imperative verbs are commands. God is giving us a very specific path to a very specific blessing *if and when we follow the path of imperatives.* What must we actually *do?* Follow the God's commands, *rejoice, be gentle in spirit and in action, be anxious for nothing,* ***and the peace of God will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.***

Then, additionally, we follow the imperative commands in v. 8 to let our minds dwell on these precious things listed there. *If and when* we do that, ***the God of peace will be with you.*** The peace of God can guard our hearts and our minds, ***and*** the ***presence of God Himself, with us, here and now!***

God designed our hearts and minds to want and need His blessings. The first man and woman had the first great blessing: the presence of God with them, every day, in the cool of the evening. God showers us with the same blessing today, if and when we follow His plan presented in Philippians 4:4-9.

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