

Peter N. Martin, Sr.'s Notes

### **You Possess Your Souls in Patience**

Luke 24:19.

As I seriously think about this topic, I begin to see its weightiness. It is heavy with wisdom. It is heavy with knowledge. It is heavy with fact. It is really heavy with fact! Imagine a student, head in hands, looking down at his desk when his teacher comes into the classroom. There is no movement by the student, just focused thinking while looking at his desk. The teacher says, "Tell me, what are you thinking about so intently?"

The student looks at his teacher, and says, "I am thinking about how I am going to deal with all of the troubles of my life."

The teacher walked over to the student, put his hand on the boy's shoulder, and gently said, "You will not have to deal with all of them today. The few you do have to deal with will be manageable. So put away this anxiety, these feelings of inadequacy. God has not ill-equipped you to deal with today's matters, and he will not forget you tomorrow."

The boy rose from his desk, clear-eyed now with a smile as wide as his face, and said, "How good it is to be reminded of things you already know by someone who understands. He left the room almost skipping. The teacher sat down, head in hands, looking down at his desk. All of a sudden he rose to his feet. He thought for a quick second before realizing that he was that boy. This was him some years ago when someone had come into the room and told him these things. And from that time, he had been dealing with matters great and small, one at a time. There were those times when all seemed lost, but he would gather what strength he had and petition God for more, and when that additional strength would come, he would persevere in the difficulty until the crisis passed. He realized that each victory in earlier trials would pass its strength to the present ones. Nothing was lost. He closed his eyes from the light of the classroom, and he opened them in his mind to see his past. Wherever a trial, a disappointment, an evil challenge, had opposed him, he had overcome them by God's grace. In every instance, he had come out in victory. He opened his eyes again in his classroom, walked over to the window, looked out, and gave great thanks to God for being his deliverer.