

Peace – and the Christian

Introduction

- A. Peace, in the Bible, describes the removal of alienation and the new relationship of harmony with God which has been purchased by the sacrificial work of Jesus Christ.
- B. Peace, as an experience, is fundamentally a wholeness, an assurance of certainty, an inner spiritual quietude, all of which is based on truth – not on reason or the emotions.
- C. Among the rights and privileges of the Christian, peace stands in high priority.

I. The Meaning of Peace

- A. Of primary importance is the peace of a correct standing with God. This is positional peace. The experiential effect in the life of the individual is that of assurance and acceptance. This is the peace of salvation.

Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1

- B. Of major importance is the peace of a correct state before God. This is the practice of peace. The experiential effect in the life of an individual is that of comfort and security. This is the peace of daily surrender.

Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6,7

II. The Source of Peace

- A. Peace is included in the titles God gives to Himself and to His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

. . . and the God of Peace shall be with you. Phil. 4:9 . . .

. . . The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

- B. Peace is spoken of as having its source in Jesus Christ.

But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the Blood of Christ. For He is our peace Eph. 2:13,14

- C. Peace is described as having its origin in the work of Jesus Christ.

These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. John 16:33

- D. Peace is the gift of Jesus Christ.

Peace, I leave with you, My peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. John 14:27

- E. Peace is the Fruit of the Holy Spirit.

But the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace Gal. 5:22

III. The Price of Peace

- A. Jesus Christ was born into the world so that peace might be a possibility.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
Luke 2:14

- B. Jesus Christ was crucified so the believer might have peace with God.

And, having made peace through the Blood of His Cross Col. 1:20

IV. The Basis of Peace.

- A. The peace of salvation is obtained by the faith acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1

- B. The peace of daily surrender is obtained by a daily committal of life to God and daily obedience. (See Phil. 4:6,7 above)

For to be carnal minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Romans 8:6

Now the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Rom. 15:13

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Eph. 6:15

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do; and the God of Peace shall be with you. Phil. 4:9

IV. The Content of Peace.

- A. Peace in the place of fear. John 20:19

Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, peace be unto you.

- B. Peace in the prospect of service. John 20:21

Then said Jesus to them again, peace be unto you; as My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you.

- C. Peace in the place of sin. John 20:26

And after eight days again His disciples were within, and Thomas with them; then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, peace be unto you.

Conclusion: God wants you to have peace!

Victor M. Matthews