

PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU

Scripture:

John 14:27 *“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*

Introduction:

Peace. We all desire to experience it. Whether it be on the world scene, tranquility in our cities and neighborhoods or the peace that Christ said should reign in our hearts. It seems to be elusive on all fronts today. There is always someone or some thing that will come along to disturb the peace of a peaceful person. We have never been able to completely depend or trust in deliberations and treaties. No matter how hard we try, it seems that we are not able to create peace, much less maintain it. And talk about passing it on.

I. What is peace?

- A. Dictionary Definitions
 - 1. The absence of war.
 - 2. An agreement or treaty to end hostilities.
 - 3. Freedom from quarrels and disagreement; harmony.
 - 4. Serenity; peace of mind.
- B. The Greek word for peace literally means to bind together or to weave together. It means that one person is joined together with another or more importantly joined with God.
- C. The word used for peace in Hebrew is shalom. This term has deep meaning and conveys a sense of being free from trouble, experiencing the best of life and spiritual prosperity.

II. The promise of peace.

- A. Peace is a gift from God.
Psalm 29:11 *“The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace.”*
- B. God gives us more peace than most of us are aware of. It’s abundant.
Psalm 119:165 *“Great peace have those who love Your law, And nothing causes them to stumble.”*
- C. It’s the same peace that kept Jesus when He was facing the cross.
John 14:27 *“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*
- D. This peace is ours no matter what comes our way in life.
John 16:33 *“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*

III. Jesus Christ is the originator of peace.

Luke 2:8-14 *“Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14“Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”*

- A. Christ brings us into peace with God the Father.
Romans 5:1-2 *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”*
- B. Christ helps us to live at peace with one another.
Ephesians 2:14-16 *“For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, ¹⁵having abolished in His flesh the enmity,*

that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,¹⁶ and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.”

- C. Christ gives us peace in difficulties and trials.
Philippians 4:4-7 *“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. ⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

IV. How can I have this peace?

- A. Tune your mind into the things of the Spirit.
Romans 8:6 *“For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”*
- B. Devote yourself to kingdom reality.
Romans 14:17 *“for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”*
- C. Keep your mind focused on God.
Isaiah 26:3 *“You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.”*
 1. The devil will try to get you to focus on disturbing things.
 2. Events and circumstances have a way of intruding on our faith in God.
- D. Live an obedient lifestyle.
Isaiah 48:18 *“Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, And your righteousness like the waves of the sea.”*
- E. Allow the fruit to be grown in your life.
Galatians 5:22-23 *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”*
- F. Pray your prayers with a thankful spirit.
Philippians 4:6-7 *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

V. Let Christ speak peace to your troubled soul.

Mark 4:25-41 *“On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, “Let us cross over to the other side.” ³⁶Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. ³⁷And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. ³⁸But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace, be still!” And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰But He said to them, “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?” ⁴¹And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, “Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!””*

- A. God has already determined where He is taking you; therefore you will get to the other side.
- B. God sometimes waits until it seems our boat is in danger of sinking.
- C. Call upon God in the time of distress and He will speak peace to your storm.