

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

JOHN 14:27

“THE GIFT OF PEACE FROM THE PRINCE OF PEACE”

I. Permanent, Priceless, Precious, Permeating Peace

A. The Popularity & Prominence of Peace

B. The Promise & Provision of Peace

1) The peace that Jesus offers & promises is ONLY for those who love Him.

2) The peace that Jesus gives is a gift.

Note: The peace that Jesus gives is a peace that He Himself would earn and secure.

J. C. Ryle - “The peace which Christ gives He calls ‘my peace’. It is specially His own to give, because He bought it by His own blood, purchased it by His own substitution, and is appointed by the Father to dispense it to a perishing world.”

C. The Person & Position of Peace

So what is Jesus’ peace??? What does it mean to have the peace of Jesus???

Romans 5:1 - “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1) Justification and peace with God are inseparably linked together!

Ephesians 6:15 - “the Gospel of peace”.

2) Justification is a declaration made by God and it is not contingent upon your feelings or upon your performance but upon the perfection of Jesus.

Romans 8:33 - “Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies.”

3) Prior to faith in Christ, prior to justification, you were NOT at peace with God; you were God’s enemy!

Ephesians 2:3; Romans 5:10; Colossians 1:19-20 -

J. C. Ryle - “There is nothing lacking on Christ’s part for our comfort, if we will only come to Him, believe, and receive. The chief of sinners has no cause to be afraid. If we will only look to the one true Savior, there is medicine for every trouble of heart. Half our doubts and fears arise from dim perceptions of the real nature of Christ’s Gospel.”

Note: Everyone who loves Christ is at peace with God in exactly the same way that Jesus was/is at peace with God.

D. The Problem & Paradox of Peace

1) The peace of Christ does not guarantee peace with other people.

Matthew 10:34-39 -

Matthew 27:46 - “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

John 16:33 - “I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

2) The peace of Christ does not guarantee peace with your own thoughts, feelings, emotions, and desires.

Galatians 5:16-17; James 4:1 -

E. The Power & Practicality of Peace

If peace is something we are given, why are we commanded to not be troubled or afraid??? Shouldn't that be obvious if we're given the peace of Jesus???

Note: We must allow the objective reality of our peace with God to dominate our thinking, our emotions, our attitude, our daily experience. It won't happen automatically.

Colossians 3:15-16 -

Romans 15:13 - “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

Romans 16:20a - “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.”

Warren Wiersbe - “The world depends on personal ability, but the Christian depends on spiritual adequacy in Christ. In the world, peace is something you hope for or work for; but to the Christian, peace is God's wonderful gift, received by faith. Unsaved people enjoy peace when there is an absence of trouble; Christians enjoy peace in spite of trials because of the presence of power, the Holy Spirit. People in the world walk by sight and depend on the externals, but Christians walk by faith and depend on the eternal.”

- Are you allowing the peace of Christ to rule in your heart?

- Have there been wrong ideas or wrong expectations about peace that have resulted in frustration and discouragement in your life? Have you been looking to someone or something, other than Christ, as your source of peace & hope?

- Have you come to terms with the joyful reality of what justification actually means? Do you grasp its meaning seeing how it results in eternal, never-ending peace with God?

- Are there situations, circumstances, people in your life (right now!) that have caused you to lose sight of Christ, His sovereignty/goodness/peace? If so, how can you set your gaze firmly upon Christ and demonstrate confidence in Him, even in the midst of difficult times?