

HIS NAME SHALL BE
Prince of Peace

(**Luke 2:9-14; Isaiah 9:2-6**; Psalm 73; 2 Kings 17:15-17; Genesis 3; Matthew 24:6-9, 10:34; Colossians 1:19-20; Romans 5:1-10; Matthew 11:28-29; John 10:27-28)

1. The thousands of angels were not speaking to the shepherds of **GLOOM**, but they were **PRAISING** God and proclaiming **PEACE**.
2. From the midst of **DARKNESS** (which the people had brought upon themselves), the prophet Isaiah proclaimed a **PROMISE**.
3. Peace (in the Bible) is less about the absence of **CONFLICT** and more about the **WHOLENESS** that God intended.
4. Any peace on the horizontal begins with peace on the vertical: a **RESTORATION** of my right **RELATIONSHIP** with God.

I hear the words of love,
I gaze upon the blood,
I see the mighty sacrifice,
And I have **peace** with God.

*(I Hear the Words of Love;
Horatius Bonar 1808-1889)*



Taking it further to help you **THRIVE...**

THRIVE Groups are currently on Holiday break.

For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, please visit thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. In **Psalm 73:3-5 (NLT)**, Asaph says *“3 For I envied the proud when I saw them prosper despite their wickedness. 4 They seem to live such painless lives; their bodies are so healthy and strong. 5 They don't have troubles like other people; they're not plagued with problems like everyone else.”* (Have you ever thought / felt like this??) Indeed often, it seems that those who are not living to please God have it easier (experience more peace) than those of us who seek to honor Him. While it might be natural to think this way, why do we need to abandon this perspective? What should our perspective be instead?

3. Read **Colossians 1:19-20**. Who “made” peace? How was this done? Why must this be a reality in my life before any ‘peace on the horizontal’ can take place?

4. What are some ways we are groaning for peace? What ways do we see the world around us groaning for peace? Why are we / they missing it? Is there anything we can do about this?

5. At Christmas, we as the Church celebrate the birth of Christ - His coming to earth in the form of a man. But why is it so important, at this time of the Greatest Birth, that we begin with the end in mind?

