



## Peace: Finding Rest in the Midst of Chaos

Dec 7, 2025

What does peace really mean when Jesus is called the Prince of Peace, yet didn't overthrow Rome or restore Israel's political independence? This powerful message explores the profound tension between our expectations of peace and what Jesus actually came to bring. We journey through 700 years of Jewish history—from Isaiah's prophecy through Babylonian captivity, Greek desecration, the Maccabean revolt, and finally Roman occupation—all while waiting for the promised Prince of Peace. The irony is striking: Jesus arrived not to eliminate conflict, but to offer something far deeper. Drawing from Matthew 10:34 where Jesus says 'I did not come to bring peace, but a sword,' alongside John 14:27 where He promises 'My peace I give to you... not as the world gives,' we discover that Christ's peace isn't about comfortable circumstances. It's about restored relationship with God and supernatural strength in our darkest moments. The disciples experienced this firsthand—locked in a room, terrified after the crucifixion, when Jesus appeared saying 'Peace be with you.' Their circumstances hadn't changed, but His presence transformed everything. This Advent season, we're reminded that Jesus doesn't promise to wrap our gifts, cook our turkey, or make difficult relatives pleasant. Instead, He offers something infinitely better: peace that transcends understanding, even when life falls apart. Romans 5:1 assures us we have 'peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ'—not because everything is fine, but because our future is secured and our relationship with Him is restored.

01.

How does the tension between Jesus as the 'Prince of Peace' and his statement 'I did not come to bring peace, but a sword' (Matthew 10:34) challenge your understanding of what peace truly means?

03.

The sermon suggests that Jesus offers peace in the middle of our chaos rather than removing the chaos itself. Can you share a time when you experienced unexplainable peace despite terrible circumstances?

05.

Peter, who witnessed Jesus' crucifixion and experienced intense fear, later wrote that grace and peace come through knowing Jesus. How does knowing Jesus personally differ from simply knowing about him when it comes to experiencing peace?

07.

Romans 5:1 says we have peace with God through Christ because we've been justified by faith. How does having peace with God differ from having peaceful circumstances?

09.

If following Jesus can actually cause division in families and persecution in some cultures, how do we reconcile this with Jesus being called the Prince of Peace?

02.

Isaiah prophesied about a coming Prince of Peace 700 years before Christ, yet Jerusalem experienced increasing destruction during that time. How does waiting through suffering shape our faith and expectations of God's promises?

04.

If Jesus didn't come to bring political or earthly peace, what kind of peace did he actually come to establish, and why is that more important?

06.

The disciples were locked in a room out of fear when Jesus appeared and said 'Peace be with you.' What does this teach us about where and when Jesus shows up in our lives?

08.

The sermon mentions that the peace Jesus brings 'transcends all understanding' according to Philippians 4. Why do you think God's peace is described as something beyond human comprehension?

10.

Pastor Daniel admitted to moments of panic even while knowing God's peace is available. How can we be honest about our struggles with anxiety while still trusting in the peace Christ offers?

### Remember...

“Whatever you're facing, God can bring you peace in the middle of it. Peace is something that Jesus brings to us. We don't have to work for it. We don't have to strive to manufacture it. We just have to let him surround us.”