



## Peace

Peace is often thought of, by the world, as the absence of conflict; however, the peace promised by God has a much deeper and more encompassing meaning than this. It dwells upon the presence of many things in one's life as well as the absence of conflict. When Christ was born, he was announced as bringing peace to the earth. Luke 2:10 records that the angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for behold I bring good news of great joy which will be for all men". In Luke 2:14 the angels announced the birth of Christ as "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased". In John 14:27 :Jesus told his disciples on the night before he died "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled nor let it be fearful".

Thus, we see at the beginning of Jesus life on this earth God promised that Jesus would bring peace, and on the night before his death he promised the disciples that he would give them His peace. What is this peace that Christ had that He gave to his disciples? It certainly was not the absence of persecution because we know that both Jesus and his disciples were persecuted and Christ and some of his disciples, were put to death.

Jesus had a peace that the world does not know. Jesus knew who He was, where He came from, who his Father was, what his mission on earth was, and where he was going when He died. Knowing all this, Jesus was able to face all the troubles and conflicts of life this world had to offer, and still he had peace, a peace that came from being the only begotten Son of God. As Christians we also know who we are, who is our creator, what our mission is in life, and where we are going when we die. That is the peace that Christ gives to us as His children.

As Christians we know we are an adopted child of God, we know we were created by God, we

have God in the form of the Holy Spirit living in us, we know our mission on earth is to believe, teach, and live the gospel of Christ, and we know we will spend eternity with God after this life is over. This gives us a peace that passes all understanding, a peace that is so different from what the world considers peace that the world can see we are different and as Christians we have a peace in our lives that the world admires and wants to know more about. Jesus in his life shows peace in everything he did. He gives us this same peace, but we must believe it, obey it, and live by it. Only then, will we have the peace that the world cannot offer, the peace that only comes from being a child of God. Oh, what a grand and glorious peace we find in Christ Jesus. It can only come from Him and can only come His way. Jesus is with us in all our conflicts of life. The Holy Spirit is in us and directs our lives and explains all situations to God that we have trouble knowing what to ask for or be thankful for. Christ has given us his peace. Eph 4:1 "I implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called." God has called us to a life of service and has given us peace. Let us walk worthy of the peace to which God has called us.