

Holding it Together  
 In a World That's Falling Apart.  
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Peace is something we all desire. To have peace requires the absence of trouble, disturbance, anxiety, contention, and, or trouble. How does one find peace? (the million dollar question)

The peace found in this world is so transient; it is fleeting; and it is short live: that's because it is circumstantial, and we all know that circumstances change.

Bible commentator, Leon Morris, writes about the peace which the world gives saying, "This is a peace of escapism, of avoiding trouble, of refusing to face things, of unreality. It is a peace that is sought through pleasure, satisfaction, contentment, absence of trouble, positive thinking, or denial of problems."

Some seek peace from religion which is criticized by the world as a "crutch" for the weak. Christianity suffers such criticism. To follow Christ is in no way a denial of truth. Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. He is the Prince of Peace.

## **A Life of Trouble.**

Jesus lived a life of trouble. Consider His coming up in a poor family, the hatred toward Him, the persecutions He endured, and His ultimate crucifixion.

**Matthew 26:38** "Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death." These words came from having to separate Himself from the Father.

## **Jesus is Our Peace.**

**John 14:27** - "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."

**John 16:33** – "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world."

*Peace defined > (eirene) > to bind together, to join, to weave together. It means that a person is bound, woven and joined together with himself and with God and others. In short, it means to be whole and sound.*

How can one hold it all together in a world that's falling apart? The answer lies in Christ.

"In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world." (Jesus, Christ)

Tribulation in this world: A metonymy for affliction, distress, calamity.

True peace is not circumstantial; it is relational. It has been won by the victory of Christ! He is our peace. "Take courage; I have overcome the world."

**Romans 8:35** - Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**Romans 8:37–39** / 37But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. 38For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

How to Hold it Together In a World That's Falling Apart.

- Claim your victory in Christ! Make your call and election sure. Stand in your Faith!

Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ro. 5:1).

- Take your burdens to the Lord.

**Phil. 4.6-7** - Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Stay out of the mire of this world.

### **Philippians 4:8-9**

<sup>8</sup>Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

<sup>9</sup>The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

## **THE ULTIMATE PEACE**

### **John 14:1-3**

<sup>1</sup>"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

<sup>2</sup>"In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

<sup>3</sup>"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.