

## John 16:27-33; Matthew 2

### Peace on Earth

**Peace** - indicates the absence of spiritual unrest, the assurance of salvation, and the confidence of God's loving presence under all circumstances.

**John 14:27** "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Jesus says he has given us peace.

- It is an inheritance that he leaves behind through the presence of the Spirit.
- It is a treasure given which produces fruit.

### Peace **with** God

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

*Jesus is peace* accomplished.

Relationship with our creator is restored.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

### *Prince of Peace* (**Ephesians 2:12-20**)

He is our peace and tore down the dividing wall of hostility.

He has reconciled us to God.

He came and proclaimed peace to those who were far and near.

Through him we have access in one Spirit to the Father.

We are citizens with the saints, and members of God's household.

Jesus is the cornerstone.

### Peace **of** God

Peace is also abstract.

Our thoughts and feelings do not have to be captured by fear or the reality of a broken world.

Peace is the result of Jesus centered hope, love, and joy.

**Philippians 4:4-9** Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! **5** Let your graciousness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. **6** Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7** And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **8** Finally brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable—if there is any moral excellence and if there is anything praiseworthy—dwell on these things. **9** Do what you have learned and received and heard from me, and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The peace of God which surpasses all understanding.

### **Matthew 2**

- We saw his star at its rising (vs. 2).
- We have made the journey to worship the new born king (vs. 2).
- Foreigners come to worship.

*Biblical Truth:* Our peace can often be others undoing!

- Herod is deeply disturbed (Jesus is a threat). **vs. 3-8**
- Herod's chaos does not disrupt the Magi's journey nor their peace.

## Jesus is Peace

**Luke 2:14** Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and peace on earth  
to people he favors (with whom he is pleased)!

Peace is physically laying in a manger in Bethlehem.

**Hebrews 13:20-21** Now may the God of peace, who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus—the great Shepherd of the sheep—through the blood of the everlasting covenant, **21** equip you with everything good to do his will, working in us what is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

God is working in you what is pleasing in his sight through Jesus.

Peace is tenderly connected to righteousness (they kiss each other).

-> Righteousness (holiness / whole living) takes place because of

- Peace with God (forgiveness of sin)
- Peace of God (sanctification).

-> When we are whole righteousness happens, it flows out of us.

- whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable—if there is any moral excellence and if there is anything praiseworthy—dwell on these things.

Do not be afraid! (Peace on earth)

**John 16:27-33** For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. **28** I came from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

**29** His disciples said, “Look, now you’re speaking plainly and not using any figurative language. **30** Now we know that you know everything and don’t need anyone to question you. By this we believe that you came from God.”

**31** Jesus responded to them, “Do you now believe? **32** Indeed, an hour is coming, and has come, when each of you will be scattered to his own home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. **33** I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.”

- In me you may have peace.
- You will have suffering in this world.
- Be courageous.
- I have conquered the world.

Truth -> God is sovereign, loving, all powerful, and at work. We have nothing to fear!

- Jesus embodies peace through the forgiveness of sin and the restoration of relationship with God.
- Restoration gives us a peace of mind. We have a friend in Jesus. God is our Heavenly Father.
- In the kingdom of which Jesus is King there is peace with one another. Genuine, sacrificial love is given and received.

In our journey what have we gazed upon?

- God’s people (the church) experience **hope, love, and joy** by embracing the kingdom of God, but they also experience **peace** as Jesus becomes central to their affections.

**Psalms 40:16** Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation continually say, “The Lord is great!”

**Advent** -> A time of waiting, expectation, and belief in the promises of God.

*Fermata* - a pause of unspecified length on a note or rest.  
A purposeful building of anticipation.

**Question:** Is your life experience a cosmic passing of time? I just want to get through the day. I just want this season to pass. I just want to not have to think about that anymore.

Or -> Is there purpose in your everyday living? Do you experience the beauty of God building anticipation?  
Are you a vessel of peace?

Holy of holies (The throne room of God)

The womb of Mary becomes the holy of holies.

Now, the redeemed are God's temple filled with the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 3:16 Don't you yourselves know that you are God's temple and that the Spirit of God lives in you?)

Are you an outpost of peace in a world of chaos?