



The Prince of Peace
Isaiah 9:6-7; Philippians 4:6,7

Peace Robbed

Peace is tranquility or freedom from disturbance. So many people desire it, but so few experience it. Many things rob us of peace. Circumstances that produce anxiety, turmoil or chaos. Relationships with conflict and discord. Activity that gives us rarely a second to breathe. Fear of our present or perceived future.

Peace Sought After

There are things we can do to make life more peaceful. For example, eliminating things in our lives that cause stress. Limiting activities. Taking moments throughout the day to pause. Exercising to improve our mood and reduce stress. Taking medication. All of these can be good and should be considered. But in the end, they often bring only temporary peace or don't bring peace in the worst of circumstances.

The Prince of Peace

True and lasting peace that will settle us in every circumstance comes from God. In Isaiah 9:1-7, God through the prophet Isaiah describes how the oppression, darkness and gloom of the nation would change to freedom, joy, peace, prosperity, justice and righteousness. What would cause this change? A Child. A Son. The One who is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. This One is Jesus. Jesus made peace possible by his work on the cross. Jesus will establish universal peace when He reigns in the Millennial kingdom for, He will bring an end to war. (Psalm 46:9,10) He establishes peace in the hearts and lives of those who submit to Him through the Holy Spirit.

How to Have Peace

Be Reconciled to the Prince of Peace – To have peace we must be in right relationship with the Prince of Peace. Jesus died so we can be reconciled to God. We were once God's enemies but now through salvation we have peace with God (Rom 5:1,10; Eph 2:14-18).

Obey the Prince of Peace – God warned the people that if they had only obeyed Him, they would have had peace like a river (Isaiah 48:18)

Pray to the Prince of Peace – The Scripture is clear the antidote to anxiety is prayer. When we pray with thanksgiving, God gives us the "peace of God" which surpasses all understanding. This peace is a gift from God that comes from the presence of God within us. When His disciples were fearful because Jesus said He was leaving them, He promised them He would give them peace. The peace of God is a peace that will guard our hearts and minds. Our hearts and minds are the place of anxiety, worry and fear. When God's peace protects our heart and mind, those can't rob us of peace. Paul says in Colossians 3:15, "And let the peace of Christ, to which you were also called in one body, rule your hearts."