

“Peace that Passes Understanding” / STORY-The Boys, The Bins and The Man

I. Peace with God (Romans 5:1)

- Biblical Peace is NOT - “the absence of conflict and strife”, “a feeling of calm or good”, “a creation of mankind”, “material or economic security”, “or relational isolation”
- Definition - “*shalom*”, which encompasses completeness, welfare, and harmony relationships is similar in tone to the greek word, *eirene*, that likewise names harmony and tranquility, but specifically in relationship.
- Found in reconciliation with God through faith in Jesus Christ. (John 14:27)
- Forgiveness of sins and justification by faith, which removes enmity with God.
- A complete, spiritual peace that is the foundation for all other forms of peace.

II. Peace Within (Philippians 4:6-7)

- The "peace of God" that surpasses understanding - God in that peace invites us to view His reliability - The “Thunder Storm”
- Trusting God and keeping one's mind fixed on Him. - Matthew 10, “Peter on the water”
- Surrendering to the dominance of the Holy Spirit, which produces peace as a fruit of the Spirit of God in residence. We act with prayer, supplication, and making requests known to God. (Joel 2)
- An inner calm and emotional rest that is not dependent on external events, that instead leans on our confidence in Christ, and His ability to manage our circumstances. (John 16:33)

III. Peace with Others (Matthew 5:9)

- The peace first received from God, shared in the Gospel of Christ.
- Being a "peacemaker," not a troublemaker, turning conflict into harmony
- Pursuing harmony in relationships.
- Serving unity in the Body of Christ - “Pax Romana vs The Peace of Christ”

IV. Peace lived out (Isaiah 52:7)

- Cultivate peace - engage in prayer and trust in God's promises (Romans 15:13)
- Let the peace of Christ be evident in your life so that others may see it and desire it (Colossians 3:15) - surrendering as citizen of Heaven to the Dominion of God.

PRAYER