

Fruit of the Spirit - Peace

10-26-16

Shalom Aleichem

I. Slide1 Announce:

A. **Prayer:** God we earnestly seek Your Spirit to **fill** us, **reshape** us, do a **makeover** w/in us.

II. Intro:

A. **Slide2** So far we've noted...the Fruit of the Spirit are in a **Triple Triad**:

1. **Love Joy peace** - **Inner attitudes**, sourced in God.
2. **Long suffering kindness goodness** - **Relational qualities**, express to others.
3. **Faithfulness gentleness self-control** - **Personal qualities**, guides indiv conduct.

B. **If** we are **filled** w/the Spirit, **we will exhibit** the fruit of the Spirit. (**of course takes time**)

1. These are **not superficial character adjustments** that happen over night.
2. **Very Important...** They involve a reshaping of the innermost dispositions of the heart, which is a lifelong process of sanctification by the spirit.

C. **Slide3 Theme: Shalom Aleichem** (*Assalaamu'Alaykum*) peace be unto you

D. **Outline: A Peace You Can KNOW. A Peace You Can FEEL. A Peace You Can SHOW.**

1. So we can have peace during an **election** year? Peace among the tension of **party-split** (Dem/Rep)? Peace w/**crazy clowns** running around (Stockton/pistol whipped)? Iraq, **Turkey** awaiting the opportunity to gain territory back? **Putin? P.I. reckless President** antics? [Cat Stevens 71' encouraged us during the VN era to *Come on the Peace Train*] (Neil Young, the 70 yr old rocker, new album slated for Dec *Peace Trail*)

III. Slide4 A PEACE YOU CAN KNOW - A Spiritual Experience

A. **God's** peace can be defined as follows: *God's peace means that in God's being and in his actions He is separate from all **confusion** and **disorder**, yet he is continually active in innumerable well-ordered, fully controlled, simultaneous actions.* (ultimate multi-tasker)

B. **Slide5,6 A Peace With God**

C. Rom.5:1 *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace w/God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1. **Peace/Shalom** – Happiness, health, favor, prosperity, safety in mind, body, or state. Order & well being.

- a) The greeting of *Shalom* is actually saying, *In your life may you have order & well-being. May you have a sense of security. May you have a sense of foundation underneath your feet.*
- D. Slide7 Peace comes not from the **absence of trouble**, *but* from the **presence of God**.
Alexander Maclaren
1. It takes *a spiritual experience* to attain this **biblical peace**.
- E. **The birth of Jesus** is the beginning of *God's Peace Accord* for humanity.
1. **Messiah has been born**. The One who can bring man into relationship w/God.
 2. Isaiah calls the Christ child, *the Prince of Peace* [not *Prince of faith/hope/love*, though those would be apropos]
 3. Eph.2:14 **For He Himself is our peace**.
- F. Rom.5:1 *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- G. This 1st Peace is a Peace we can **KNOW**.

IV. Slide8 **A PEACE YOU CAN FEEL** - *An Emotional Experience*

- A. Slide9,10 The Peace **Of** God
- B. Remember, *the angelic announcement of peace* was given at a time of **much turmoil** caused by the heavy rule of the **Roman Empire**.
1. Slide11 **So today** God's message of **peace** comes *despite* life's *stormy circumstances*
- C. **Once we've made our peace with God**, *then* we can experience the **peace of** God.
1. Peace *w/God* was **Judicial**...The war with God is now over.
 2. Next we can enjoy the Peace **of** God which is **Experiential**. It's a **Day by day** experience of the believer, *but* can be *unfortunately forfeited*.
 - a) A person can experience #1 **and not** #2.
 - b) **Example** of WWII Japanese who hid for years in jungles, long after **peace** was established between the warring nations. They hadn't heard the news, so stayed in **hiding**. - *There was judicial peace but they didn't have experiential peace.*

D. Slide12 Phil. 4:7 *and the **peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will **guard** your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

1. As the 1st peace we talked about was a peace we could **KNOW**, this is a peace we can **FEEL/experience**.
2. **It's a peace that holds us steady.**
3. **It's a peace that transcends all understanding.**
 - a) You & I **can't** understand this peace, **but** we can **feel/sense/experience** it, even while not fully understanding it.
4. **It's a peace that guards.** *It stands as a sentinel/sentry at the door of our heart, at the very window of our soul.*
 - a) Maybe like your **house alarm**. Out of sight, out of mind...**but** if you set it when you go to bed it is a comfort, peace of mind...*by its presence*.
5. Slide13 *Peace I leave with you, **My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.** Jn.14:27*

E. **My Peace** is **not** the power of positive thinking; It is **not feelings** the disciples have to conjure up; **nor circumstances** they have to cover up.

1. **My Peace** = a heart untroubled; *fearless in spite of suffering or conflict that comes our way.*
2. *It's an **inner calm** in the midst of tempestuous **outer storms**. Read 16:33*
3. Slide14a *Rest is not some **holy feeling** that comes upon us **in church**. It is a state of calm rising from a heart deeply & firmly established in God.* Henry Drummond

F. **Poem**

G. My peace I give in times of deepest grief, Imparting calm and trust and My relief.
 My peace I give when prayer seems lost, unheard; Know that My promises r ever in My Word
 My peace I give when you are left alone - The nightingale at night has sweetest tone.
 My peace I give in times of utter loss, The way of glory leads right to the cross.
 My peace I give when enemies will blame, Your fellowship is sweet through cruel shame.
 My peace I give in agony and sweat, For My own brow with bloody drops was wet.
 My peace I give when nearest friend betrays - Peace that is merged in love & for them prays
 My peace I give when there's but death for thee - The gateway is the cross to get to Me.¹

¹ L.S.P. (not sure who this poet is); taken from June 13th, Streams in the Desert.

- H. **Slide14b My peace** - Who is **qualified & authorized** to speak of & offer *this peace*?
1. No one except...He that is **called** the Prince of Peace. Who's **Ministers** are the messengers of peace. His **Word** is the Gospel of Peace. His **Way** is the path of peace.
- I. **Why does He give it now** (here, at the end of His earthly life)? Because anything left us by a dying friend is valued & esteemed very highly.
1. **My peace I give to you** - Picture Jesus reading His own *Last Will & Testament*: Lands & houses, the worlds goods, silver & gold, he had none to leave. *But what He has He gives to us.*
 - a) **My Peace I give to you. My Love I give to you** (15:9). **My Joy I give to you** (15:11).
 2. An angel announce **peace** at His **birth** & He Himself passed on **peace** at His **death**...*Peace I leave with you.*
 - a) **Paul** wraps up 2 Thes with, *Now may the Lord of peace Himself, give you peace always, in every way.* (2Thes.3:16)
 3. **Slide15 Read** Is26:1-4 [You will keep him in **perfect peace** (lit. *shalom, shalom*) whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, For in Yah, the Lord, is everlasting strength]
- J. **Peace, Peace**
- K. (1) **In that day** – start of mill. **This song** – The prophet wrote a song that will be sung by the redeemed when the messiah will establish the millennial kingdom.
1. With all the *marketing* in Christendom, if we are living in the end times, I'm surprised someone hasn't put this chapter to music...**because** it will be **the #1 song on Air One in the Millennium.**
- L. (3) **God gives peace to His people** (also see 12)
1. **Peace, peace** - *Shalom, Shalom.*
 - a) A duplicating peace - A peace that really is peace.
 - b) **The general meaning behind the root is: of completion & fulfillment** - of entering into a state of *wholeness & unity, a restored relationship.* [TWOT]
 2. **Stayed** – steadfast.
 3. **Trust** – The redeemed will readily testify of the everlasting faithfulness of Jehovah.

- a) Let us rest upon Him with all our weight - Let us drive out all unbelief - Let us rid ourselves of doubts & fears.
- b) Peace that Jesus gives is **not the absence of trouble**, **but is rather** the confidence that **He is there with you always**.

M. The 1st Peace was a Peace we can **KNOW** - The 2nd is a Peace we can **FEEL**.

V. Slide16 **A PEACE YOU CAN SHOW** - *A Relational Experience*

A. Peace To **Others**

B. Maybe this evening you desire **peace** in your **marriage**, with one of your **children**, **peace** in your **financial situations**, **peace** in a **work** situation. How do we help **bring** Peace to Others?

C. This 3rd Peace is the **toughest** kind of peace.

1. 2000 yrs ago **Peace** came down from heaven in **the form of a Baby**.

a) **Today** to have that *peace on earth...it doesn't just hover over our planet*, we must **demonstrate** it in our **culture & society**, in our **church & in our neighborhoods**.

2. This is the toughest kind of peace. It's the **turn your cheek** kind of peace. It's the **walk a 2nd mile** kind of peace. It's the peace that **gives instead of takes**. It's a peace that **goes & shows** it, **instead of** waits for the other person to bring it.

3. Peace is often the theme of Christmas, **but** should also be the theme of our **Christian life...The Fruit of the Spirit is...peace**.

D. Will you do **your part**, to **BRING His Peace** to others? *Blessed are the peacemakers*.

1. The **opposite** would be when we're either...**at war w/God or at war w/other people or at war w/yourself**.

E. The 1st Peace is a Peace we can **KNOW**. The 2nd is a Peace we can **FEEL**. The 3rd Peace is a Peace we must **SHOW**.

F. We may never have **peace** in our world (till 2nd Coming), **but** an **inner peace** is available to all through Jesus.

1. Peace of a quiet conscience; Peace of a restful mind; Peace of a surrendered will; Peace of a hopeful heart; Peace of loving fellowship. Peace because Jesus has slain the Dragon.

G. **Benediction:** Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you **peace** always in every way.