

Sunday, January 28, 2024
THE INTERNAL MANIFESTATION OF THE KINGDOM
PART 3: PEACE

Here we are – back in our study of the internal manifestation of the kingdom of God. So far, we have studied how the kingdom of heaven/God manifests in its function. Then, we studied one of the components of kingdom manifestation: righteousness. Now, we move to another manifestation: peace.

Romans 14:17 (NKJV)

Peace: eirēnē (from eirō, "to join, tie together into a whole") – properly, wholeness, i.e. when all essential parts are joined together; peace (God's gift of wholeness).

Let's look at the converse. A lack of peace occurs when you have conflicting beliefs and emotions. This conflict fights against the "wholeness" that God gives us in Jesus. As a matter of fact, this conflict creates instability.

James 1:5-8 (NIV)

This conflict or instability is created through being double minded.

dípsyxos (an adjective, derived from /dís, "two" and /psyxé, "soul") – properly, "two souled"; (figuratively) "double-minded," i.e. a person "split in half," vacillating like a "spiritual schizophrenic." This term may have been coined in the NT.

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid." /// John 14:27 (NLT)

Peace comes through belief in God's Word and the accompanying affirmation of the Holy Spirit. You see, there is an unbreakable link between righteousness and peace.

And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. /// Isaiah 32:17 (ESV)

Isaiah 9:7 (NIV)
James 3:18 (NIV)

What does the Word of God say about living a wicked lifestyle?

Isaiah 48:22 (NIV)

God has a purpose: "to gather together in one all things in Christ" (Eph. 1:10), and He cannot accept neutrality. "He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters" (Luke 11:23). The key to your peace is found in your submission to a life of integrity to the Word. People with integrity have nothing to fear. They have a single heart, a single mind, and a single will – all focused upon the truth and goodness of God. Let's remind ourselves one more time:

And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. /// Isaiah 32:17 (ESV)

Today's Scriptures:

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- James 1:5-8 (NIV)
- John 14:27 (NLT)
- Isaiah 32:17 (ESV)
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