

God

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How can we experience lasting peace on the inside when there's constant trouble on the outside?

^{16:33} "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." ... ¹ After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³ Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. John 16:33-17:5

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." –Saint Augustine, *Confessions*

What we believe about God...**God is great.** (John 17:2)

No one is like you, LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power. Jeremiah 10:6 ESV

God is good. (John 17:2)

"I will make all my goodness pass before you... ⁶ The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty..." Ex 33:19, 34:6-7 ESV

God is one. (John 17:3)

Hear, Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! Deuteronomy 6:4 NASB

God is triune. (John 17:3)

Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:10-11

- o **God is three persons.**
- o **Each person is fully God.**
- o **There is only one God.**

God is worthy. (John 17:4-5)

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Revelation 5:12

Let's Talk About It

You can experience lasting peace in a world that is full of trouble by anchoring your life fully in God – who He is and what He's like. We believe in one God, Creator and Sustainer of all things. He is perfect and unchanging; completely loving, good and holy; limitless in knowledge, power, and presence. God eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; one in essence, having the same divine attributes and perfections, with each person fulfilling distinct roles. Gracious in his eternal purpose to redeem a people for himself, God is worthy of wholehearted love and worship!

John 16:33-17:5; Jer 10:6; Ex 33:18-19, 34:6-7; Deut 6:4; Mark 1:10-11; Rev 5:12

Purple Book, review:

- What did you learn about *spiritual family* from chapter seven of *TPB*?
- What role do you believe God is calling you to serve in His church?
- Why is it so important for every member to contribute to the body of Christ?

Sermon questions:

- Which part of the message impacted or challenged you?
- Read John 16:33-17:1-5. Why do we often try to fill the hunger for the Infinite (i.e. God) with finite things? How does knowing God and having his presence in your life help you experience peace in times of trouble?
- Read Deuteronomy 6:4 and Mark 1:10-11. What are some dangers of emphasizing one aspect of God over the others? The Trinity teaches us community, diversity, and mystery. Which of these three is most applicable to your life? Why?
- Read Exodus 34:6-7. Which one of God's attributes of goodness are you most deficient in? What practical steps can you take to be more like Him in that area?
- Read Jeremiah 10:6. Where do you see God's greatness at work? Where do you need His greatness right now? How does a revelation of God's greatness transform the way you live?

Take a Step

- Take time daily to read the Bible and reflect on who God is and what He is like.
- Ask Him to reveal Himself in a greater way and transform you in the process.

Here's My Prayer

We praise You, O God and acclaim You as Lord. All creation worships You, the Father everlasting. To You all the powers of heaven sing in endless praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Throughout the world, the holy Church acclaim You: Father, of majesty unbounded, Your true and only Son, worthy of all praise, the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide. Day by day, we magnify You, and we worship Your Name. Have mercy on us, for our trust is in You.