



Blessed are the peacemakers

Matthew 5:9

PPH Youth Ministry

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What is peace?

1. Greek – “eirene” – Tranquility. A picture word to describe a boat sailing on a calm sea, or two persons walking head in hand. Absence of strife.
2. Hebrew – “shalom” – Not just absence of strife but the presence of everything good. A state of harmony, tranquility and unity between parties.

Do people treasure and desire peace?

World peace will remain a wish, not a reality.

The foundation of peace

Why can't we bring about world peace? Why can't people enjoy peace?
Answer: Because our problem is spiritual. Human solutions cannot solve spiritual problems.

Gal 5:19-21 "The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, immorality, impurity fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

(Also James 4:1-5)

Matt 15:18-19 "But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean.' For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander."

Peace is three-fold

(a) **Peace with God**

– the result of a right standing with God

(b) **Peace with yourself**

– the result of a right relationship with the Lord (Jesus)

(c) **Peace with others**

– the result of right living before men

They are related – three expressions of one peace

God is the source of peace



In the OT He is called the **Prince of Peace**
(Isaiah 9:6)

In the NT He is called the **God of peace**
(Rom 15:33, Rom 16:20 and Heb 13:20)

God is the source of peace

None of us can create peace.

God alone is the author of peace. He initiated reconciliation with us that we may have peace

Eph 2:14-15 “For He himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace.”

1. God's peace with us

“Right standing with God”

Eph 2:12-14

Romans 5:1 “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Our peace with God is the foundation.

There is no peace without a right standing before God.

1. God's peace with us

2. God's peace in us

“Right relationship with the Lord ”

Many Christians do not enjoy inner peace.

Reason: Our desire rules and God does not reign (James 4:1-2)

⌘ **Do we want the Peace of God in us? Christ must rule.**

1 Pet 3:15 “But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord...”

Col 3:15 “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace.”

1. God's peace with us

2. God's peace in us

“Right relationship with the Lord ”

Believers do not automatically enjoy God's peace. We do not have the peace which Christ gives (john 14:27) until Christ must rule

– review of the beatitudes (Matt 5:3-8)

(a) He is not self-sufficient, but consciously poor in spirit (v3)

(b) He is not satisfied, but mourning because of his spiritual state (v4)

(c) He is not self-important, but lowly or meek (v5)

(d) He is not self-righteous, but hunger and thirst for God's righteousness (v6)

(e) Having tasted God's mercy (v7) you see people mercifully

Then your heart will be pure because you have the God's nature (v8)

Then you are ready to be a peacemaker (v9)

(that's why "peacemakers" appears as the 7th beatitude, not on top of the list)

1. God's peace with us
2. God's peace in us
3. God's peace to others

2. Christ is working through us to bring peace.

1 Cor 15:17-20 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

1. God's peace with us
2. God's peace in us
3. **God's peace to others**

What do peacemakers do?

- ⌘ Our dealing with **believers** – what are our responsibilities as peacemakers?
- ⌘ Our dealings with **non-believers** – what is our role as peacemakers?

1. God's peace with us
2. God's peace in us
3. God's peace to others

Peace among believers

- ⌘ Make every effort to seek peace and pursue it
 - Rom 14:19** "Make every effort to do what leads to peace."
 - Hebrews 12:14** "Make every effort to live with peace with all."
 - 1 Pet 3:11** "He must seek peace and pursue it."

- ⌘ Take initiative to restore peace
 - Matt 5:23-24**
 - Matt 18:15**

- ⌘ Learn to listen and not to speak
 - James 1:19**
 - 1 Peter 3:10-11**
 - Eph 4:2-3**

1. God's peace with us
2. God's peace in us
3. God's peace to others

Bringing peace to non-believers

⌘ Do not seek revenge

Rom 12-17-19 "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord."

⌘ Learn to show honor

Rom 12:20-21 "On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

- 1. God's peace with us**
- 2. God's peace in us**
- 3. God's peace to others**

The end result

⌘ Matthew 5:9 "...for they shall be called sons of God"

When we think treat people differently and respond differently, we are mirrors that reflect God's glory.

People come into the LIGHT when show them what peace we have when we walk in the light.