

PEACE IN CHRIST

While we live in a chaotic world, we must be intentional in finding true peace in Christ Jesus our Lord.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ The word “peace” appears 420 times in the KJV Bible, with the Hebrew word for peace being “Shalom.” It perhaps is the one word many of us know without studying Hebrew. But what does Shalom really mean?
- ❖ In modern Israel, when someone greets you or says goodbye, they will typically say “Shalom.” In saying this they are saying more than just hello or goodbye, and more than just a simple ‘peace be with you.’
- ❖ They are actually saying something more along the lines of, “may you be filled with a complete and perfect peace and be full of well-being,” or “may health, prosperity, and peace of mind and spirit be upon you.”
- ❖ Shalom is like a completed stone wall with no gaps or missing bricks; something complex with lots of pieces that is in a state of completeness and wholeness. It refers to moving parts and relationships and when one piece is missing your Shalom breaks down.
- ❖ Adam and Eve had Shalom in the Garden of Eden with God, themselves, the animals and nature until chaos happened. This chaos separated man from God and removed the Shalom between God and man.
- ❖ It is for that reason Jesus came: to restore to wholeness the relationship between mankind and their Creator. The sin gaps that were left when Adam and Eve sinned can now be closed up to completeness (Shalom) because the Prince of Peace is here.
- ❖ This peace that Jesus brings is a gift that is embodied in the Spirit that He gave to us. Therefore, this peace is available to each of us that proclaims we have the Spirit of God. We must be intentional in seeking it.
- ❖ When we think of peace, we think of no trouble. The peace *Jesus* brings is not the absence of war or trouble, misfortunes or sicknesses, or danger or sorrow. But it is what you need when the doctor says there is nothing more they can do; when your child has dropped out of school or when they are no longer interested in your interests or in your God.
- ❖ The peace in John 14:27 is the peace one experiences in the midst of the chaos. It is a divine, supernatural tranquilizer of the soul that no drug in this world can replicate.
- ❖ The peace that comes from God is not touched or affected by troubles and trials. It is unrelated to circumstances. It is the peace that allowed Paul to say he was content in all things (see Philippians 4:6-9).
- ❖ Paul was talking about the peace that the presence of God brings, which will guard our hearts from the chaos of the world and the anxiety in our situations.
- ❖ Paul said to think about good and lovely things and to put into practice the examples he had shown and the things he taught in order to experience God’s peace.
- ❖ As Jesus got closer to His last days on earth, He encouraged His disciples by saying in John 16:

KEY SCRIPTURE: Philippians 4:6-9 (NLT)

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. (v. 33)

- ❖ He was about to go through a trial and a crucifixion like no other. Yet He told His disciples to not lose heart by what they saw because He would overcome.
- ❖ Trials will come, pain will appear, but we are still in relationship with a God that is greater than anything we can ever face in this world. We are still connected to the Prince of Peace.
- ❖ Isaiah 26:3 says, “You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed on *You*, because he trusts in *You*.”
- ❖ Where is your mind? Is it on your problems?
- ❖ The scripture comes with instructions: we must keep our minds on Christ. When we set our minds on Christ and trust Him, He will keep us in perfect peace.
- ❖ God is trustworthy and He will never let us down. Therefore, the peace level will come in alignment with our trust level.
- ❖ The condition for perfect peace is to keep our minds on the Lord. This soul-protecting strategy allows us to bring our minds into obedience to God’s word. But how do we do that?
- ❖ By doing what is written in 2 Corinthians 10:4-5:
 - Bring into captivity every thought that is against the plan, will, and Word of God.
 - Rely on God’s strength.
 - Guard our thoughts.
 - Read the Word of God and use it as our weapon.
 - And pray—about things that are/are not the will of God for our lives; about everything.
- ❖ As Philippians 4:6 (NLT) says, “Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.”
- ❖ If you fix your eyes in your past or your present, it limits your perspective. But if you fix your eyes on God, there is a big change in your perspective. Anything is possible when God is the focus of your life. Anything.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. When troubled by a situation, what is your coping method on a physical level (i.e. deep breaths, food, etc.)?
2. How do you cope on a spiritual level; what Scriptures do you go to in order to find peace?
3. Take the time to pray a “Philippians 4:6” prayer.

PRAYER TIME

Lord, troubles may be to my right and to my left, but my eyes will ever be fixed on You.

Start-up: Where do you go or what do you do when you want a quiet, peaceful moment for yourself?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week’s message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

- ✓ (Reminds me/Confirms)
- 💡 (New idea)
- 🌀 (Think about)
- ⚡ (Do this)
- ❤️ (Speaks to my heart)
- ↔️ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

**Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO SUBMIT A BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Obtain approval from Head of Department and send to announcements@faithsanctuary.com by Wednesday @ 4:00 p.m. (If projection is desired send to media@faithsanctuary.com.)

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There is peace in the midst of the storm-tossed life

There is an Anchor, there is a rock to build my faith upon

**Jesus Christ is my vessel so I fear no alarm
He gives me peace in the midst of the storm**



FAITH SANCTUARY ON-LINE SERVICES

SUNDAY @ 10:15 a.m. – Sunday Bible Study
SUNDAY @ 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service LIVE
**SUNDAY @ 3:00 and 8:00 p.m. – Worship Service
Rebroadcast**
**MONDAY @ 6:30 p.m. – Berean Bible Study on
Zoom, Facebook, YouTube**
**WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 p.m. – Worship Service
Rebroadcast**

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

MARCH 14, 2021

Faith SANCTUARY

Know Jesus, Love Jesus, Share Jesus

2021 ~ Live It! ~ 2021

Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie

"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."

John 16:27 NKJV

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