

Christmas Peace: Jesus Christ – The Prince of Peace

Read: Luke 2:13-14

¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

1. It seems the phrase, “peace on earth” is one from the Bible that has really caught on in America. What is the expectation most people, when they say, “peace on earth”?

I hear it in songs, I see it on signs, but I think rarely do people understand what it means. I think most people reflect on worldly peace. Perhaps creating dissolution with the Christmas message because even 2000 years later we are yet to see peace on earth. Wars, criminal violence, anger, unrest... are everywhere. Beauty Pageant contestants and Politicians alike proclaim a desire to create world peace but no one can find a way to bring it to pass.

2. What is the Biblical message of “peace on earth” from the Angels in Luke 2:14?

The Angels were referring clearly to peace with God. Jesus was the one and only way to fulfill that peace.

The Prophet Isaiah announced that Jesus would be called the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). Read the following verses to begin to understand the reason He would carry that name.

Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed

Colossians 1:19-20

¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

3. What brought us Christmas Peace?

The Christmas message is really a beginning of peace because God would use Jesus to reconcile the world to Himself. (God and Sinners Reconciled). The broken body and shed blood of Jesus brought us peace with God.

Romans 5:1

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

4. According to Romans 5:1, how would you describe peace with God?

It is no longer standing in my sin, hopeless, unworthy, separated from God. Peace means instead I stand in the presence of God, holy in His sight because of Jesus, washed clean and justified freely but Christ. And I receive the amazing gift of Grace from God.

John 14:27

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

5. According to Jesus message to us in John 14, since we have received peace, how then shall we live?

When I grasp peace with God I no longer have any reason to worry or be afraid. My life is secure in the cross of Jesus by His love. Troubled hearts, worry, fear have no place in the heart of those who have been reconciled to God.

This Weeks Daily Devotional Christmas Reading

Day 1 – Isaiah 9:1-6

Day 2 – Isaiah 53:1-12

Day 3 – Colossians 1:13-19

Day 4 – Colossians 1:20-23

Day 5 – Romans 5:1-11