

Strength For Today

Peace for Today

John 14:27

Peace

- In the Old Testament, the word for peace is *shalom*
- It was a normal greeting for among Jewish people
- Shalom means a blessing for completeness, for contentment, fulfillment, satisfaction, prosperity on all levels of life
- In the New testament, peace is the *eirene*, where we get the female name Irene
- Eirene (peace) means to bind together, to join, to weave or braid together
- It means regardless of what is going on in life, nothing can cause the peace we have with God to unravel

Peace, I Leave with You (the Legacy of Peace)

John 14:27 (KJV) ²⁷ “Peace I leave with you ...”

- In John 13, Jesus shared with the disciples some very upsetting news
- Jesus said
 - one of disciples would betray Him
 - Another one would deny Him
 - And on top of all of that, He would no longer be with them
- For the disciples, it was time of sorrow, confusion, and a time of departure and separation
- The disciples were greatly troubled, disturbed, agitated, perplexed, worried, tossed about, confused, and distressed.
- The disciples were anxious about the future; just like many of us
- The disciples needed to be settled down and given some sense of peace: to receive some encouragement and some new hope.
- For times like these, Jesus says “Peace I leave with you...”
- I made plans for you to help you make it after I’m gone, I put you in My will
 - I’m leaving you a *legacy* of peace, an *inheritance* of peace
 - Jesus is saying peace is in His *will* for you
 - The peace Jesus leaves us is not affected **by** the circumstances of life, but it has an effect **on** the circumstances of life
 - **Jesus’ peace is not natural, it’s supernatural**
 - It’s a level of peace that can be attained in spite of the circumstances you’re going through
 - **It is a peace that lives above our circumstances.**
 - Even though we might not understand how Jesus’ peace works, we have a peace
 - The peace of God is going to prevent the thoughts of confusion, worry, doubt; that try to gain access, to upset, trouble, or contaminate your mind
 - You have a legacy of peace

My Peace I Give to You (the Gift of Peace)

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“...my peace I give unto you:...”

- Where does this peace come from?
- The *source* this peace is Jesus Christ Himself
- You can't find or receive this peace from anywhere else
- Jesus' Peace is supernatural and Spirit-given ***Galatians 5:22-23 (KJV) 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.***
- Jesus' peace is like a deep underground well, *constant and unaffected* by weather; while our “self-made peace” is like a “puddle”, shallow and evaporates quickly under pressure
- When Jesus says “My peace I give you”, it is His *gift* to you,
- Jesus gives us His peace; not something borrowed, but something borne out of His divine nature
- It is the peace He *used* in His own life
- The peace Jesus gives is *battle-tested* peace
- This peace worked for Jesus and that's why He wants to give it to you
- The peace Jesus gives is:
 - A tranquility of mind, a composure, a peace that is calm in the face of difficult circumstances and situations.
 - A peace of unquestioned confidence; the peace with a sure knowledge that your life is in the hands of God
 - It's the peace of intimacy with God
 - It is the peace that settles the mind, strengthens the will, and establishes the heart.
- ***The peace Jesus gives is always born out of relationship.***
- This peace is a product of our relationship with Jesus Christ. ***"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).***
- Jesus gives the disciples *and us*, a *gift* we didn't even know we needed, *His peace*

Jesus' Peace is Different from the World

“...not as the world giveth, give I unto you...”

- The peace Jesus gives to us is completely different from the peace the world has to offer
- The world's peace is ***temporary***; it doesn't last
- The world's peace is ***superficial***, it only gives the “appearance” of peace, but doesn't address the core of our problems
- The world's peace is ***artificial, phony, and fake***
- The world's peace is ***fragile***, it is quickly and easily broken

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- The world only offers “substitutes” for peace like drugs alcohol, busyness, materialism, etc.
- This isn’t real peace, it’s an escape
- Escapism is like covering a leaky roof with a tarp, the “substitute” holds for “a while”, but the storm *still* gets in
- Jesus’ peace is not the “absence” of problems, it’s the *presence* of God in the midst of them

Receive and Apply God’s Peace to Your Life

“...Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

- John begins John 14 with “Let not your heart be troubled”, and says here near the end of the chapter, “Let not your heart be troubled”
- But in between, Jesus says, “I give you peace”
- What Jesus is saying is the peace He gives must be received and *applied* to our lives
- When your thoughts and emotions get agitated and stirred up, apply His peace
- When fear comes to try and distract you, dominate and paralyze you, apply His peace to your situation
- Jesus’ gives us peace to face life with boldness, not to hide from it
- ***How do we apply Jesus’ peace to our lives?***
- We apply Jesus’ peace by having faith in Him ***John 14:1 (KJV) 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.***
- Jesus’ peace will:
 - ***Strengthen you Psalm 29:11 (KJV) 11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.***
 - ***Comfort you 2 Corinthians 1:4 (KJV) 4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.***
 - ***Help you rise above life’s difficulties and problems 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (KJV) 8 “ We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; ...”***
 - ***Hold you together*** – the word “peace” here means to “weave or bind together”
 - ***Give you victory - “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).***