

Hebrews 7.11

Perfect Peace

The Old testament law could not provide what was needed. The priesthood and the sacrificial system could only put sin away for payment at a future date, for the blood of bulls and goats can never take away sins (Heb 10.4)... but the payment made by Jesus Christ is a new type of payment, a new type of work. It is a work of perfection and of completion. The perfection of the work of our High Priest, Jesus is a finished work and a work that cannot be unmade, or displaced. It is completed in Him and bears for us the full and awesome reality of the favor of God upon us. It is the provision of God for EVERY single promise He ever made. All promises had their partial fulfillment in the moment, a span of time and a set of circumstances, but the ultimate fulfillment of them all was to come in the person of Jesus Christ, the King of Glory and the savior, priest, sacrificial Lamb of God who has taken away every barrier. He is the provision for every gift of God and the answer to every need. In Him we

find the fullness of perfect righteousness which has been imputed to us, and in Him we find the provision of the peace that we so desperately need in this life, and in that which is to come.

I. PEACE WITH GOD

A. Our sin separated us from our God -

Isaiah 59:2 (NKJV)

² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

- i. It defiled us in every way and made us unclean and unable to approach Him
- ii. There was war between us and God and every thought of our minds, every passion of our hearts and every aiming of our desire was contrary to the God who IS.
- iii. The reality of the situation is that apart from God there is not only no peace, there is NO life at all. There is only the hideous pretend life of dead flesh imitating life and consuming every good thing in its path.

- B. Christ Jesus bore the weight of our sin and removed the offense that was between us and God, paying for our sin with His own blood.

Colossians 1:19–22 (NKJV)

¹⁹ For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, ²⁰ and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—

- i. Everything is reconciled to God
- ii. Jesus made peace between us and God by the blood of the Cross
- iii. We WERE alienated from God
 - a. By wicked works
 - b. And evil thoughts and intentions
- iv. NOW reconciled unto God
 - a. Presented holy
 - b. Presented blameless
 - c. Presented above reproach in God's sight...

- v. This is the PEACE that has been made between us and God

Isaiah 53:5 (NKJV)

⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

- C. The war of rebellion has ended, God made peace

Romans 5:1 (NKJV)

¹ Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- D. This is the fulfillment of the Aaronic Blessing...

Numbers 6:24–26 (NKJV)

²⁴ “The Lord bless you and keep you; ²⁵ The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; ²⁶ The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.”’

- i. The fullness of all possible blessing has been given to us in Christ, and PEACE is the promised inheritance. It is extended to us as the inheritors of the blessing and it binds us together with all other inheritors. It pays no mind to national, racial or ethnic lines but

unites all believers in Christ binding us together as the family of God.

- ii. God has promised that we are HIS, kept by His hand
- iii. His face has been shown down upon us in smiling blessing
- iv. And He has been Gracious to us in the giving of His Son Jesus Christ -

Ephesians 1:7 (NKJV)

⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

II. PEACE OF GOD

- A. The outpouring of this grace, the ending of the war and the new relationship that is ours in Christ, having been adopted into the family of God means that all of the blessings of God's gifts unto us are delivered through this glorious outpouring of Jesus Christ unto us. We have all of the gifts of God's peace included as our very inheritance
- B. His own nature has been made available to us for our sustenance

C. Peace is the presence of God in us, for if we are at peace with God then nothing else in all the world can unsettle us...

i. This is why Gideon knew God as "God our Peace" –

Judges 6:23–24 (NKJV)

²³ Then the Lord said to him, "Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die." ²⁴ So Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it The-Lord-Is-Peace. To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

D. For those who are outside of Christ and do not have His righteousness there can be no real peace. 2 times in Isaiah we find these words ²² "There is no peace," says the Lord, "for the wicked."

i. Isaiah 48:22 (NKJV)

ii. Isaiah 57:21 (NKJV)

E. All of man's attempts to make peace or to end war, to shape the world according to our own desires will end in failure... for there is NO peace for the wicked.

F. Further, they actively seek war with those who love God for they themselves are at war with Him still...

Psalm 120:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ My soul has dwelt too long With one who hates peace. ⁷ I am for peace; But when I speak, they are for war.

G. But for those who are in Christ, for those who have been given the peace of God ...

Psalm 4:8 (NKJV)

⁸ I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 29:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ The Lord will give strength to His people; The Lord will bless His people with peace.

H. We need not fear the struggles of the lost against us, or the schemes of the evil one to ruin us...

Exodus 14:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

I. In the midst of the chaos we can still know the peace of God,

i. It is derived from God Himself and is inextricable from His own nature.

ii. It calls us to seek after God with the fullness of all that we are

III. PEACE FROM GOD

- A. There is no experience of peace apart from the presence of God. The peace that we seek in everything is HIS peace that is given to us
- B. We must seek after Him - the peace is focus derived

Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)

³ You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

- i. When we focus our attention on the problem rather than the source of our hope, the problem becomes all out of proper scale.
 - ii. It effects our trust to see the problems as more powerful than they are
 - iii. Rather we are to focus on God, to know that HE is our source of hope and peace and power
 - iv. God is exalted and the peace that comes from His presence flows through us and guards us from the vagaries of this life.
- C. We must desire and seek to be always thinking toward God's will and ways. It is this which the scripture calls Spiritual-mindedness

Romans 8:6 (NKJV)

⁶ For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

D. It is the fruit of the indwelling Spirit of God
Galatians 5:22–23 (NKJV)

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

E. It is the very peace of Jesus Christ, God made flesh that is given unto us

John 14:27 (NKJV)

²⁷ 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 16:33 (NKJV)

³³ 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.”

IV. PEACE FOR GOD

A. God calls us to carry the work of the Kingdom to the uttermost ends of the earth. The work that belongs to us as followers of Christ is the extension of His peace

Isaiah 32:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ The work of righteousness will be peace, And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.

B. The faithful proclamation of the Gospel WILL bring the peace of God into the lives of the lost! We do not know when and we do know when but we do know THAT it will happen!

C. It will bring peace between the Jew and the Gentile for we are all one in Christ Jesus

Ephesians 2:14–18

D. It is our calling to sow peace, to make peace wherever we go.

James 3:17–18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. ¹⁸ Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

E. The faithful proclamation of the gospel will also bring peace into the church by bringing the ONE mind of God to the disunity that separates us when we focus on us and our giftedness rather than on God and His mercy in the

salvation and adoption of sinners. God calls us to form our worship according to His ways so that we rightly display His nature.

1 Corinthians 14:33 (NKJV)

³³ For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

F. The faithful proclamation of the Gospel will fill us with the promise of peace and the power of God for our lives... He IS ALWAYS beyond sufficient

Romans 15:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.