

Hebrews 7.1-3

The King of Peace

Peace is the great desire of all humanity. How we define that desire is altogether another thing. It is often man's reckless pursuit of perceived peace at all costs that have created our greatest evils, trials and hardships. We forget that peace is not a random feeling of contentment, it is not primarily a subjective emotion. Peace is a condition that flows from being in right standing with the God of the universe. All men desire it, but only the sons of God possess it. Because Peace is the great gift of our great King.

I. RIGHTEOUSNESS BRINGS PEACE –

- A. His role as King of Peace occurs only in the context of Him being King of Righteousness
 - 1. It is not because He has no authority over those who are not His own subject, but because peace is gift He shares with His own.

2. We can know absolutely NO peace until we are at peace with God –

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.

3. It is also because the work of Righteousness IS peace, and the things that righteousness brings are the very things that people mistake for peace. –

Isaiah 32.16-20

- B. This is why all man's attempts at peace fail **Isaiah 48.22; 57.21** twice Isaiah tell us that God states there is “no peace for the wicked”

1. The more we seek peace the more it eludes us, the more desperate our attempts become, the more evil our behavior grows,

the more we become evil ourselves, the more we are under the judgment of God... it is a vicious cycle broken only by the mercy of God in the cross of Christ...

Ezekiel 7:25–26 (NKJV)

²⁵ Destruction comes; They will seek peace, but there shall be none. ²⁶ Disaster will come upon disaster, And rumor will be upon rumor. Then they will seek a vision from a prophet; But the law will perish from the priest, And counsel from the elders.

2. All man's ruinous behavior are merely attempts to quiet the storm that rages in the soul
3. Our problem with peace experientially is the fruit of our absence of peace existentially –

Jeremiah 8.8-13

- C. We are at war with God - and since He is the source of all meaning and purpose, He is also the only source of peace that is available

to us The more peace you take, the better subject you are of that kingdom, which is called Salem. Every fear is a rebellion against its King. Nothing honors Christ like the peace of His people — peace is Salem's loyalty. —

Philippians 4.6-7

II. PEACE IS THE GIFT OF GOD IN CHRIST —

John 20.19-23

A. Everything that is needful comes through the person of Jesus Christ

1. Grace and truth come through Him —

John 1:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

2. Righteousness comes through Him —

Romans 3:22–24 (NKJV)

²² *even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

3. Justification comes through Him –
(Romans 3.24)
4. Peace comes through Him as a result of
our justification -

Romans 5:1 (NKJV)

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

III. PEACE BETWEEN GOD AND MAN

- A. He satisfied God's wrath, fulfilled all God's righteousness, and reconciled us to God –

Romans 3:25 (NKJV)

²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

Romans 5:8–10 (NKJV)

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

B. It is important to note often, loudly and as plainly as possible that it is God who has initiated this overture of peace, and that same God has not only done everything needed to provide that peace, but He has also made sure that those He is drawing and cleansing as His children will actually come to Him in peace. –

Isaiah 27:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴ Fury is not in Me. Who would set briers and thorns Against Me in battle? I would go through them, I would burn them together. ⁵ Or let him take hold of My strength, That he may make peace with Me; And he shall make peace with Me.”

- C. We have been adopted into the family of God as His precious children. –

Galatians 3:26 NKJV)

²⁶ For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

IV. PEACE WITHIN MAN

- A. He gives to us His Spirit who renews our soul, minds and bodies and brings peace and harmony to our lives
- B. He gives us peace as a guard on our hearts –

Philippians 4.7-8

- C. No longer are our weaknesses a barrier to our callings and purposes in Christ, for He supplies all our needed strength to accomplish what He calls us to do. –

Philippians 4:13 NKJV)

¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

V. PEACE BETWEEN MEN

- A. He reconciled all of creation to Himself –

Colossians 1:20 (NKJV)

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.

1. Man
2. Nature
3. Angels - I am not suggesting that angels can be redeemed or that they are part of the target of his death... what I am suggesting is that angels are God's servants, and it is

foolish to believe that they are on the side of those who hate God. That when they appear to the damned that it is not for judgment. This is part of why the worship of angels is so common, for THEY are not the messenger of the gospel. They come with a message of judgment against rebellious mankind, we do not heed, but then worship the apparition... adding to our condemnation. The other factor in the worship of angels is the deceit of the fallen angels appearing as angels of light.

4. All are reconciled to one another in Him

B. He broke down the wall of separation between the nations. Gentile and Jew all united in Him –

Ephesians 2.14-18; 3.6

Galatians 3.28; 4.7; 5.6

C. He changes our hearts toward each other so that we might live lovingly and peaceably with one another –

Isaiah 11:6 (NKJV)

⁶ *“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them.*

Micah 4.1-5