

Life of Jesus (2)

“Independent Servant”

Servant

- “Make me a servant, make me like you”
- *²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.*
- *²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,*
- *²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,*
- *²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Matt. 20:25-28 ESV)*

A servant's life:

- Reconciles
- Keeps his word, truthful, faithful
- Forgives
- Generous
- Just
- Fair
- Treats others as he wishes to be treated
- Looks to the interest of others – not just to his own interest
- Not a grumbler
- Does his master's will – will be like his master

Do you have a hard time saying “no”?

- *And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." (Jn. 2:4 ESV)*
- *²¹ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?"*
- *²² Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" (Jn. 21:21-22 ESV)*

A servant?

- *I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:*
- *² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.*
- *³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,*
- *⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. (2 Tim. 4:1-4 ESV)*
- *“Get behind me Satan” (Matt. 16:23)*
- I am your servant, but you are not my master.

THE GOD OF PEACE

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November 17, 2021

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THE GOD OF PEACE

- It is a constant theme in the Bible that God is the source of peace for his people.
 - Numbers 6:24–26; “The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”
 - Isaiah 26:3; “You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.”
- The OT foretold that God’s peace would be brought through the Messiah.
 - Isaiah 9:6; “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
- When Jesus was born, peace was brought into this world.
 - Luke 2:14; “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

PEACE WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY HIS DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION

- Ephesians 2:14–17; For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.
- Colossians 1:19–20; For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

PEACE IS A CHOICE

- Jeremiah pointed out that there were false teachers in his day that preached a false peace.
 - Jeremiah 6:13–14; “For from the least to the greatest of them, everyone is greedy for unjust gain; and from prophet to priest, everyone deals falsely. ¹⁴ They have healed the wound of my people lightly, saying, ‘Peace, peace,’ when there is no peace.”
- God tells us that there is no peace for the wicked.
 - Isaiah 48:22; “There is no peace,” says the LORD, “for the wicked.”
- Jesus brought the potential for peace for everyone through forgiveness, but his message would not be accepted by some.
 - Matthew 10:34; “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.”

THE PEACE THAT JESUS GIVES

- In the blessing given by Zechariah (Lk 1:67–79), the coming of Jesus as the Messiah is expected to “guide our feet into the way of peace” (v 79).
 - Luke 1:79; “to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”
- Jesus gave peace to his disciples in John 14:27 but it is not like the peace the world gives
 - John 14:27; “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”
 - John 16:32–33; “Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”
 - Philippians 4:7; “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

PEACE IS UNDERSTOOD IN THE CONTEXT OF A RELATIONSHIP



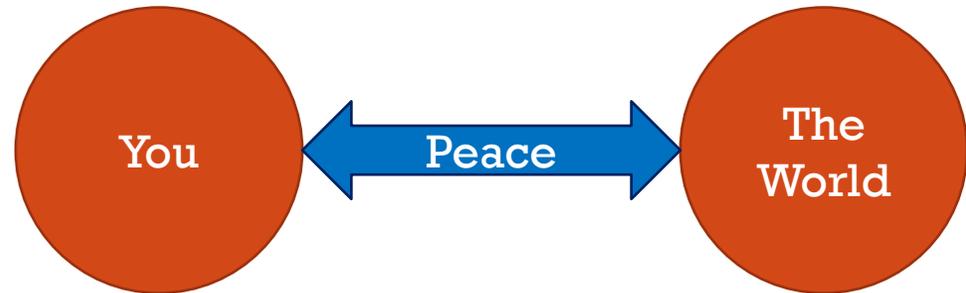
- Let us define peace as the absence of hostility.
- Having peace in a relationship means the absence of hostility between you and the other party.
- Having peace in a relationship allows one to enjoy the benefits of that relationship.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ABOUT PEACE



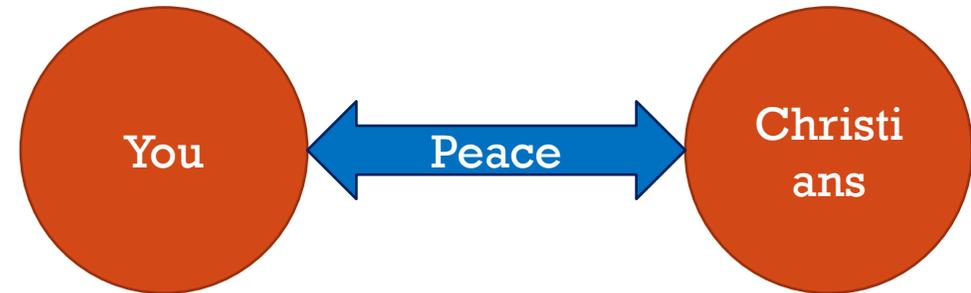
WHAT ABOUT PEACE WITH THE WORLD?

- How do you acquire this peace?
 - Participate in worldly activities
- What are the benefits of this peace?
 - Inclusion, popularity, avoidance of ridicule
- How do you maintain this peace?
 - Silence regarding worldliness
- What is the cost of this peace?
 - Compromise
- How important is having this peace?
 - Romans 12:18; “If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”
 - James 4:4; “You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”



WHAT ABOUT PEACE WITH CHRISTIANS?

- How do you acquire this peace?
 - Be added to the church, Fellowship
- What are the benefits of this peace?
 - Spiritual Family, Encouragement, Edification, Examples
- How do you maintain this peace?
 - Walk in the light, love one another
- What is the cost of this peace?
 - Bearing one another, giving, obedience
- How important is having this peace?
 - 2 Corinthians 13:11; “Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”



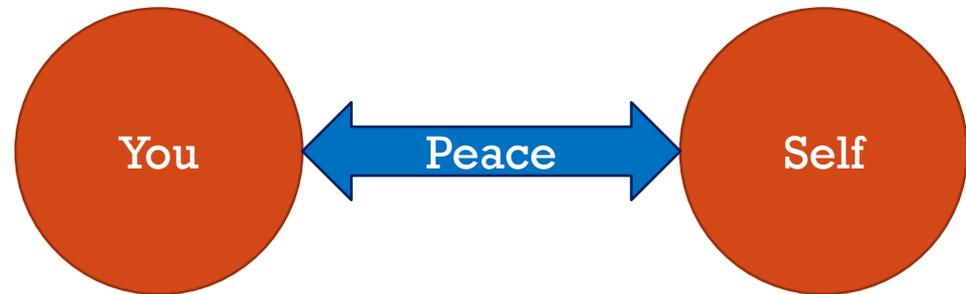
WHAT ABOUT PEACE WITH FAMILY?

- How do you acquire this peace?
 - Involvement, care, love
- What are the benefits of this peace?
 - Family, Encouragement,
- How do you maintain this peace?
 - Husbands love your wives, brotherly love
- What is the cost of this peace?
 - Bearing one another, deference
- How important is having this peace?
 - 1 Corinthians 7:16; “For how do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?”
 - 1 Peter 3:7; “Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way ... that your prayers may not be hindered.”



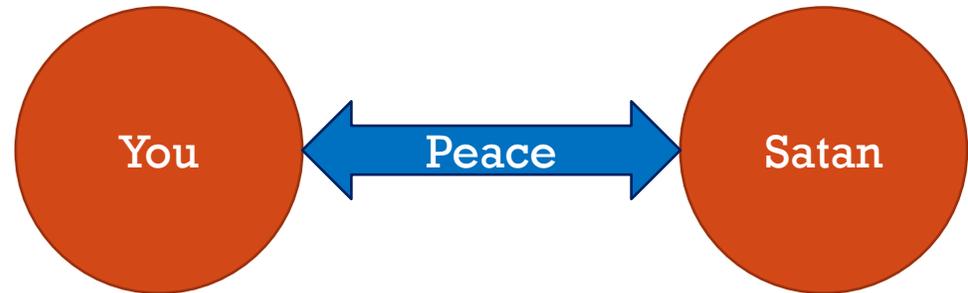
WHAT ABOUT PEACE WITH SELF?

- How do you acquire this peace?
 - Forgive yourself
- What are the benefits of this peace?
 - Freedom from inner turmoil
- How do you maintain this peace?
 - Consistency
- What is the cost of this peace?
 - Honesty
- How important is having this peace?



WHAT ABOUT PEACE WITH SATAN?

- How do you acquire this peace?
 - Sin
- What are the benefits of this peace?
 - Passing Pleasures of sin
- How do you maintain this peace?
 - Go on sinning
- What is the cost of this peace?
 - Your soul
- How important is having this peace?
 - Satan doesn't want you to think about his relationship with you (at all!).



WHAT ABOUT PEACE WITH GOD?

- How do you acquire this peace?
 - Faith (Obey him)
- What are the benefits of this peace?
 - Forgiveness, heaven, prayer, Holy Spirit
- How do you maintain this peace?
 - Faith
- What is the cost of this peace?
 - Everything
- How important is having this peace?
 - What shall a man give for his soul?

