

Peace, A study on Peace

Peace can simply be defined as the presence of God and having that awareness at all times. Staying in Peace is the greatest battle we have in life.

Suffering comes to steal our peace. With the peace of God, you will not respond to life in fear. Don't agree with your current situation, but with the Word.

A. Ephesians 1:2 Grace *be* to you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

There are 18 times in the New Testament where grace and peace are mentioned together. This grace and peace empower us to do all that is written in the Word of God.

- o Romans 1:7
- o Romans 16:20
- o 1 Corinthians 1:3
- o 2 Corinthians 1:2
- o Galatians 1:3
- o Ephesians 1:2
- o Philippians 1:2
- o Colossians 1:2
- o 1 Thessalonians 1:1
- o 2 Thessalonians 1:2
- o 1 Timothy 1:2
- o 2 Timothy 1:2
- o Titus 1:4
- o Philemon 1:3
- o 1 Peter 1:2
- o 2 Peter 1:2
- o 2 John 1:3
- o Revelation 1:4

a) "Grace and peace" are the most repeated phrase in the New Covenant. It is powerful. Grace and peace are more like twins. These two cannot be separated. If we are missing out on peace, it is because we have left grace. No grace, no peace, and a lack of peace = lack of grace. We will not have peace for what God has not graced us to accomplish. Grace and peace are in the will of God, not our own thing.

i) If grace goes out of the door, peace goes out of the window. It does not stay.

- ii) Grace and peace go together. Where there is grace, there is peace. The absence of peace could mean a departure from grace. If you are not walking in peace, you have left grace. No peace means, we aren't in grace, or we are trusting in our own ability and strength.
 - o When we are in walking in grace, we have peace and when we are in peace, we can rest assured that we are walking in grace.
 - b) We or access receive grace through faith (Romans 5:1-2). This empowers us to live a victorious Christian life.
 - c) Grace is not just God's unmerited favor. Grace is God's power, ability, strength, provision. There is more to grace than what we are experiencing. We need to grow in the grace of God.
 - d) A lack of the revelation of grace results in religion which has no peace. When we receive the grace of God—by faith, we step into the peace of God.
 - e) Those who aren't born again, do not have the true peace of God. Jesus came to bring peace with God (Luke 2:14) but we receive that through faith. It's not bestowed upon us without our cooperation and response.
- B. *Isaiah 32:17-19 And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. 18 And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places; 19 When it shall hail, coming down on the forest; and the city shall be low in a low place.*
- a) Work = product
 - b) Righteousness is right standing with God and the fruit of being in right standing with God is peace, righteousness, quietness, and assurance.
 - i) Gr. dikaisune- *state of being as one ought to be.*
 - c) The product of being as we ought to be is:
 - i) Peace

- ii) Quietness
- iii) Assurance
- iv) Peaceable habitation
- v) Sure dwellings
- vi) Quiet resting places

C. James 3:18 *And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.*

- a) Fruit is a result of seed sown. No seed, no fruit. Notice that righteousness is fruit. It has fruit.
- b) Righteousness = right stand with God. Gr. dikaisune- state of being as one ought to be.
- c) Sow in peace you reap peace which is the fruit of righteousness. So, for one to sow in peace, they will have to be in righteousness which is right standing with God.
- d) If we do not make peace, we are not sowing in peace.
- e) Context seems to indicate that this fruit of righteousness is the wisdom from above. This wisdom ought to be sown in peace, not in strife. Those who make peace sow peace in others.

D. Isaiah 26:3 *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.*

- a) When our mind (thoughts or focus) is stayed on the Lord releases, not just peace, but perfect peace. There are dimensions of peace that I see in these passages.
- b) Are there different levels of peace?
 - i) Peace
 - ii) Perfect peace (Isaiah 26:3)
 - o You may get some peace while your mind is partially focused on other things, but perfect peace only comes when our mind is stayed upon the Lord.
 - iii) peace like a river. Isaiah 66:12

- o Harkening to the Word of God releases peace, yet not just peace, but peace like a river.

iv) Great peace— Psalm 119:165 Isaiah 48:18 *O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:*

E. Isaiah 54:13 *And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.*

a) When we are taught of the Lord, we not only have peace, but we also have great peace.

F. Isaiah 55:12 *For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*

a) Peace is one of the forms of leading—or being led. Not the only one, though. Be led forth with peace. Also notice that if you do not have joy, you should not be going out.

b) If you feel unrest or anxiety, it is possibly because you're not walking down the path of peace. We can't walk in anxiety and peace at the same time. You are not being led by the spirit. Be led by peace (Isaiah 55).

G. Isaiah 57:19 *I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him.*

a) We can speak peace to him that is a far off just as one that is near.

H. Isaiah 66:12 *For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.*

a) Peace can be extended????

I. Psalms 85:8 *I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.*

a) What God speaks is peace unto His people. Not turmoil.

- b) We need to choose to hear or be willing to hear what the Lord has to say. When He speaks, He speaks peace especially unto His people and saints. He does not speak turmoil, fear to His people and saints.
- c) Peace is a voice of God.
- J. Psalm 119:165 *Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.*
- a) Not just peace, but great peace.
- K. Romans 14:17 *For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.*
- a) Where there is righteousness, there is peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.
- L. Philippians 4:6-9 *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.*
- M. James 3:17 *But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.*
- N. Isaiah 9:6 *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*
- a) No Jesus, no peace. Jesus is the prince of peace. His presence is a peace.
- O. Psalms 37:37 *Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.*
- a) Walking in an upright way produces and releases peace in our lives.

P. Psalms 85:10 *Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*

- a) Righteousness is always in love with peace. They have kissed together because where there is right standing with God or one is as he ought to be, then there is peace.

Q. Proverbs 3:2 *For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.*

R. Luke 2:14 *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

S. John 14:27 *Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

- a) We have been left with the peace of Jesus—the Prince of Peace. This peace is different from that of the world.

- i) It is not the absence of problems but having and staying in peace regardless of the circumstances.

- b) Because we have this peace, we should not let our hearts be troubled, not be afraid.

T. Acts 10:36 *The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)*

- a) We need to be preaching peace, not wrath. We do that by preaching Jesus (Colossians 1:28).

- b) When Jesus was born, the message was clear from the angels. Luke 2:14 *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

- c) When we preach peace, we are preaching Jesus, the author of peace and the prince of peace.

- i) Gospel of peace—not wrath

- Romans 10:15 *And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*
- Ephesians 6:15 *And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*
- Peace = Security, safety, prosperity, and tranquility.
- ii) From these passages we see that preaching peace = preaching the gospel which is also the grace of God (Romans 1:16-17; Galatians 1:6-7; and Acts 20:24).
- d) 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 *And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.*
 - i) Notice the words, “*Ministry of reconciliation*” and “*word of reconciliation.*”
 - I would argue this is the gospel of peace—the grace of God (Gospel) which the preaching of peace of God toward men bring about reconciliation.
 - ii) Preaching hell and damnation does not bring people into reconciliation. It runs them off. Our message ought to be one of peace, not of wrath if we want to see reconciliation between God and man.
- U. Romans 2:10 *But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:*
- V. Romans 5:1 *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*
 - a) Once we are justified by faith; we instantly have peace with God through Jesus. Again, we see that there is not peace without Jesus, the Prince of peace.

b) The peace spoken about in Luke 2:14 we have it already. This was peace from God toward men which comes by faith in Jesus.

i) We can rest assured that we have it. It is not coming to us. It is a done deal. Thank You, Jesus.

ii) Those who have not put faith in Jesus do not have peace with God yet. It comes through Jesus.

W. Hebrews 11:21 *Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.*

X. Psalms 122:7 *Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.*

a) Where there is peace, there is prosperity.

Y. Proverbs 3:17 *Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.*

a) All our paths must be led with Peace.

Z. Mark 4:39 *And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.*

a) We can speak peace to situations and circumstances, and they will respond. Speaking peace involves arising and rebuking the wind. Speaking peace is a form of rebuke when directed towards a situation or circumstances that needs to change.

AA. 2 Peter 1:2 *Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,*

a) Grace and peace be multiplied through the knowledge of God.