

WORD

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. ISAIAH 9:6

For some, Christmas can be stressful, with all the preparations and get-togethers. But we can be peaceful and joyful during this season—or any other day—regardless of our situation. Isaiah, writing 600 years before the birth of the Messiah, prophesied that Jesus fulfills a precious promise from God—He gives us God’s peace. This peace is not just the absence of conflict. Rather, it is a state of completeness or wholeness. In this lesson, we will look more into what Jesus, the *Prince of Peace*, gives us.

1 Restoration

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ROMANS 5:1

The Bible tells us that all of us have sinned against a holy God and are eternally separated from Him. However, the good news is that we are restored to a right relationship with our Father in heaven when we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior. According to this verse, how can we *have peace with God*?

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2 Rest

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” **MATTHEW 11:28**

The scribes and Pharisees of Jesus’ day imposed burdensome rules on people, so they could earn their way to heaven. In contrast, Jesus invites us to personally go to Him through faith, so that we can be forgiven and find eternal rest for our souls. What does Jesus ask us to do, so He can give us rest?

3 Reconciliation

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” **LUKE 2:14**

Without Christ, we are God’s enemies. But with Christ, we are reconciled to God and gain peace with Him. Just as the angels proclaimed the news about Jesus—so can we share God’s message of reconciliation and peace with others. According to 2 Corinthians 5:18-20, who has God reconciled to Himself through Christ’s finished work on the cross?

APPLICATION

- Do you understand what Jesus did for you on the cross? How will you respond to the gospel, and how will this change the way you live?
- In what area of your life do you need peace? What's one thing you will begin doing differently this week, so that you would have more of God's peace in your life?
- Who can you encourage and pray for this week? Think of one person who needs God's peace. If the person is not yet a Christian, pray that you'll be able to preach the gospel to him/her.

PRAYER

- Thank God for giving us Jesus, our *Prince of Peace*.
- Pray for a family member or friend who needs the peace of Christ. Speak a blessing over him/her today.
- Pray for nations that need to experience God's peace right now. Declare that Jesus' name will be proclaimed to the ends of the earth.



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