

The Prince Of Peace

INTRODUCTION

1. **Peace:** a word conveying wonderful concepts...
 - a. "a state of harmony, tranquility"
 - b. "the absence of hostility, the absence of mental stress or anxiety"

2. In the Bible, the word peace is used to translate...
 - a. **Shalom** (Hebrew) - completeness, soundness, welfare, peace

Listen to **Isaiah 54:10 (KJV)** For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, **neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed**, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

Then Jesus tells us in **John 14:27 (KJV)** **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.

So since the Bible speaks often of Peace, why is it so many Christian's do not have that peace in their lives?

In the Old Testament The concept of spiritual peace is most often represented by the Hebrew root slm and its derivatives,

the most familiar being by the noun *shalom*. Its basic meaning is “wholeness” or “well-being.” Holman Bible Dictionary.

Transliteration: shâlôm

Phonetic Pronunciation: shaw-lome'

Root: from [<H7999>](#), Greek [<G4539>](#)

Cross Reference: TWOT - [2401a](#)

Part of Speech: n m

Vine's Words: [Peace](#)

Usage Notes:

English Words used in KJV:

peace 175

well 14

peaceably 9

welfare 5

salute + [<H7592>](#) 4

prosperity 4

did 3

safe 3

health 2

peaceable 2

miscellaneous translations 15

[Total Count: 236]

or *shalom*, shaw-lome'; from [<H7999>](#) (shalam); *safe*, i.e. (figurative) *well, happy, friendly*; also (abstract) *welfare*, i.e. health, prosperity, peace :- × do, familiar, × fare, favour, + friend, × great, (good) health, (× perfect, such as be at) peace (-able, -ably), prosper (-ity, -ous), rest, safe (-ty), salute, welfare, (× all is, be) well, × wholly.

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.

b. **Eirene** (Greek) - often refers to the inner tranquility and poise of the Christian whose trust is in God through Christ
-Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary

Transliteration: eirēnē

Phonetic Pronunciation: [i-ray'-nay](#)

Root: probably from a primary verb eiro (to join)

Cross Reference: TDNT - 2:400,207

Part of Speech: n f

Vine's Words: [Peace](#), [Peaceable](#), [Peaceably](#), [Quiet](#), [Quietness](#)

Usage Notes:

English Words used in KJV:

peace 89

one 1

rest 1

quietness 1

[Total Count: 92]

probably from a primary verb **eiro** (to *join*); *peace* (literal or figurative); by implication *prosperity* :- one, peace, quietness, rest, + set at one again.

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.

In the New Testament the Greek word *eirene* corresponds to the Hebrew *shalom* expressing the idea of peace, well-being, restoration, reconciliation with God, and salvation in the fullest sense. God is “the God of peace” Holman Bible Dictionary.

I think most of us would agree that Peace is a quality and virtue that is not only sorely needed in the world but also in the church today.

Paul admonishes us in Hebrews 12:14 (KJV) Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Follow in this verse means to pursue or press forward. In ultimate meaning we should pursue PEACE with everyone. Peace expressing the idea of peace, well-being, restoration, absence of fear, reconciliation with God, and salvation.

The “and holiness” presses upon us this PEACE is not a work of the flesh but is totally a work of God. We cannot have PEACE apart from an active fellowship with our God through Jesus Christ. Jesus tells us that WITHOUT HIM we can do

nothing. The pursuit of that PEACE WHICH PASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING can only be ours through our abiding in the vine.

In simple terms, this peace is not something we can accomplish by our efforts but comes only from our walk and fellowship with our Lord through His Word. It is a PEACE that envelopes us even in the midst of very trying circumstances.

I. NOT EVERYONE ENJOYS PEACE

A. THE WICKED...

1. "There is no peace, says the Lord, for the wicked" - **Isa 48:22**

Isaiah 48:22 (KJV) *There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.*

2. The sins of the wicked separates one from God - **Isa 59:2**

Isaiah 59:2 (KJV) But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.

The Psalmist understood this as he penned; **Psalm 66:18 (KJV)** If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me*:

3. Sinful conduct destroys friendships and family relationships - **Ga 5:19-21**

Galatians 5:19-21 (KJV) **5:19** Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **20** Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **21** Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

4. Sin prevents true peace of mind **Isa 57:20-21**

Isaiah 57:20-21 (KJV) **57:20** But the wicked *are* like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. **21** *There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.*

The word definitely shows the wicked are in dire need for peace

It is a definite fact the world is in need of PEACE, but what about those who profess to be Christians....are all Christian's

experiencing that PEACE which only comes by God through Jesus?

Let us look to the Scriptures for examples which show that Christian's at times are also in need of that deep PEACE which only comes from GOD. Jesus can be in the house and we still can be troubled and without PEACE.

B. THE TROUBLED DISCIPLE...

1. Even faithful disciples can become troubled and need PEACE- e.g., Martha, **Lk 10:41**

Luke 10:41 (KJV) And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

2. Disciples lose their peace when they:

- a. Fail to simplify their priorities - **Lk 10:42**

Luke 10:42 (KJV) But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

In simple terms, we lose our peace when the troubles of the day push us away

from focusing on the more important issue such as fellowship time with our Lord.

b. Become choked by cares, riches, and pleasures - **Lk 8:14**

Luke 8:14 (KJV) And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

As disciples of our Lord we must always be on guard against letting the cares of this world choke out the truths of God's Word in application to our daily walk.

c. Succumb to the desire to be rich - **1 Ti 6:10-11**

Perhaps one of the ,major causes of this tendency is the desire for riches and the thought process that things will bring joy and fulfillment to our lives. Listen to what God says to us about this thought process though.

1 Timothy 6:10-11 (KJV) **6:10** For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. **11** But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

I think we can conclude, not only from the scriptures but also with our own personal experiences, that without any doubt the righteous are also often in need of peace.

There are some other illustrations from Scripture which should encourage us as well as warn us.

C. THE CONCERNED SERVANT...

1. Those of us who worry about our brethren, like Paul –

2 Corinthians 2:12-13 (KJV) 2:12 Furthermore, when I came to Troas to *preach* Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord, **13** I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia.

2 Corinthians 7:5 (KJV) For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without *were* fightings, within *were* fears.

2 Corinthians 11:28-29 (KJV) 11:28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily,

the care of all the churches. **29** Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?

2. Who becomes distressed with concern, like Epaphroditus - Ph 2:25-26

Philippians 2:25-26 (KJV) 2:25 Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants. **26** For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick.

3. Who sorrows when hearing bad news, like elders - Ac 20:37-38

Acts 20:37-38 (KJV) 20:37 And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him, **38** Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more. And they accompanied him unto the ship.

-- Even the most dedicated servants finds themselves in need of peace at times

But be encouraged because wherever there is a need for peace, we have good news:

II. JESUS CAME TO BRING PEACE

A. AS FORETOLD...

1. By Isaiah, the Messianic prophet - **Isa 9:6**

Isaiah 9:6 (KJV) 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.**

2. By Zacharias, at the birth of John - **Lk 1:76-79**

Luke 1:76-79 (KJV) **1:76** And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; **77** To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, **78** Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby **the dayspring from on high hath visited us, 79** To give light to them that sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, **to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

3. By the heavenly host, at the birth of Jesus - **Lk 2:8-14**

Luke 2:8-14 (KJV) 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. **10** And the angel said unto them, **Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.** **11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. **12** And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, **14** Glory to God in the highest, and **on earth peace, good will toward men.**

-- The Prince of Peace came to bring peace and good will to men!

B. AS PROCLAIMED...

1. By Jesus Himself, to His disciples - **Jn 14:27; 16:33**

John 14:27 (KJV) 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.

The Peace Jesus gives does not come from the World and it is a PEACE which removes doubts and fears.

John 16:33 (KJV) These things I have spoken unto you, that **in me ye might have peace**. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but **be of good cheer; I have overcome the world**.

Jesus affirms that we will have tribulation in this world but we can still have PEACE in the midst of the tribulations if we are in HIM because HE has overcome the world.

2. By His apostles, as they taught the lost - **Ac 10:36**

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

Through these truths it is clear the Prince of Peace offers to those who believe a peace that the world cannot give!

SO, What is that peace? Let us look briefly to that question.

III. THE PEACE THAT JESUS OFFERS

A. First of all, IT IS PEACE WITH GOD as well as the PEACE OF GOD..

1. Jesus makes it possible for us to be a peace with God

2. Consider Peace with God: Romans 5:1

Romans 5:1 (KJV) Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

3. Then consider the Peace of God:

Philippians 4:7 (KJV) And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:15 (KJV) And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

-- Without peace with God, we cannot experience the Peace of God and no real peace is possible apart from this.

B. PEACE WITH MANKIND...

1. Jesus breaks down the barriers between mankind

2. Consider **Ga 3:28**

Galatians 3:28 (KJV) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for **ye are all one in Christ Jesus.**

-- **Jesus makes peace between mankind**

C. PEACE WITH ONESELF...

1. Jesus offers peace within, unfazed by the world

2. Consider **Ph 4:6-7**

Philippians 4:6-7 (KJV) **4:6** 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.**

-- **Jesus provides peace that surpasses all understanding**

D. PEACE WITH FAMILIES...

1. Jesus provides peace for families seeking love and stability

2. Consider **Co 3:18-21**

Colossians 3:18-21 (KJV) 3:18 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. **19** Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them. **20** Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. **21** Fathers, provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged.

I think we can readily conclude if we follow Jesus' doctrine it will lead to peace in the family

E. PEACE WITH BRETHREN...

1. Jesus provides peace between brethren

2. Consider **1 Pe 3:8-12**

1 Peter 3:8-12 (KJV) 3:8 Finally, *be ye* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be pitiful, be courteous*: **9** Not rendering evil for evil, or

railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: **11** Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. **12** For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord *is* against them that do evil.

-- Following Jesus' doctrine will lead to harmony among brethren

F. PEACE WITH CHURCHES...

1. Jesus offers peace for the ills of denominationalism

2. Consider Jn 17:20-23; 1 Co 14:33

John 17:20-23 (KJV) **17:20** Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; **21** **That they all may be one;** as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, **that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.** **22** And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; **that they may be one, even as we are one:** **23** I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made

perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

1 Corinthians 14:33 (KJV) For God is not *the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.*

-- Heeding the prayer of Jesus is the cure for denominationalism

G. PEACE WITH ENEMIES...

1. Jesus shows us how to have peace with our enemies

2. Consider **Mt 5:44; Lk 23:34**

Matthew 5:44 (KJV) But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Luke 23:34 (KJV) Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

-- Through precept and example, Jesus shows us how to make peace

CONCLUSION

1. Do you have such peace? Or have...

a. **Wicked practices** prevented you from finding peace?

b. **Misplaced priorities** robbed you of your peace?

c. **Bona fide concerns** filled your heart with anxiety?

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is willing to give you His peace.

And as Paul

Prayed, I also pray for each of you tonight:

**"Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace
always in every
way." 2 Th 3:16**