"The Gift of Peace"

Isaiah 9:6-7 (VOICE) Hope of all hopes, dream of our dreams, a child is born, sweet-breathed; a son is given to us: a living gift. And even now, with tiny features and dewy hair, He is great. The power of leadership, and the weight of authority, will rest on His shoulders. His name? His name we'll know in many ways — He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Dear Father everlasting, ever-present never-failing, Master of Wholeness, Prince of Peace. His leadership will bring such prosperity as you've never seen before—sustainable peace for all time. This child: God's promise to David—a throne forever, among us, to restore sound leadership that cannot be perverted or shaken. He will ensure justice without fail and absolute equity. Always.

I. Satan's signature is the _____ of peace.

Genesis 3:9-13 "Then the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked." "Who told you that you were naked?" the Lord God asked. "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it." ¹³ Then the Lord God asked the woman, "What have you done?" "The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it."

Genesis 4:6-8 "Why are you so angry?" the Lord asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? ⁷ You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master." ⁸ One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields" And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him."

Luke 21:25-27 (NKJV) ""And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth *distress of nations, with perplexity*, the sea and the waves roaring; ²⁶ men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

II. Jesus and Ministers by Peace. Romans 14:17 (NLT) For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13 "I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him." A. Jesus is the Prince and of Peace Isaiah 9:6-7 (NLT) For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. This government and its peace will never end. Hebrews 6:20 (NIrV) "That is where Jesus has gone. He went there to open the way ahead of us. He has become a high priest forever, just like Melchizedek. Hebrews 7:1-2 "Melchizedek was king of the city of Salem and also a priest of God Most High. When Abraham was returning home after winning a great battle against the kings, Melchizedek met him and blessed him. Then Abraham took a tenth of all he had captured in battle and gave it to Melchizedek. The name Melchizedek means "king of justice," and king of Salem means "king of peace. Jesus, the prince and High Priest of peace will reign forever from the city of peace (Jerusalem). B. Jesus peace to every believer John 14:27 (NIV) "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." Jesus' Peace: An, internal, trans-circumstantial sense of tranquility and well-being	elusive and circumstantial sense of tranquility and well-being.
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Luke 1:78-79 Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

II. Through Peace, God protects us from fear and anxiety.

Philippians 4:6-7 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 5:7 Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.

III. Peace is found through dependence upon the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT) The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, *peace*, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control.

IV. Peace is experienced through praise and worship

Isaiah 61:1-3 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to . . . to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

Psalm 149:5-9 Let the faithful rejoice that he honors them. Let them sing for joy as they lie on their beds. ⁶ Let the praises of God be in their mouths, and a sharp sword in their hands— ⁷ to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, ⁸ to bind their kings with shackles and their leaders with iron chains, ⁹ to execute the judgment written against them. This is the glorious privilege of his faithful ones.

John 14:27 I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.

The Gift of Peace



Christmas Presents

December 6, 2020

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