

Jesus Offers Peace

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Peace I leave with you, My Peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14: 27)

Do you feel like your world is flying apart? Is your life out of control? Jesus offers Peace. St. Paul offers this counsel -

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4: 6-7)

"...through Jesus Christ" is the qualifier. Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He is the source of Peace and the one who sustains us in Peace. This comes out of a relationship with the Living God Jesus Christ, the One who defeated sin and death. He offers Peace to those who turn to him and walk with Him.

As we are reconciled to God in Christ, the Lord imparts Peace. We are called to live in Christ (in relationship with Him) and He sustains us in His Peace. St. Paul further details how we can walk in Peace -

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of Peace will be with you. (Philippians 4: 8-9)

In many ways God's Peace is counterintuitive. Living in Peace is often very different than what the world teaches -



"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Romans 14:17

*...for the kingdom **of God** is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and Peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14: 17)*

As a child I found it strange that people going through challenging circumstances would seem so tranquil at the core of their being while others were terror-stricken. The difference was often stark. Frankly, I was cynical about those who were peaceful. I thought these folks were simply in denial.

However, when Christ became part of my life as I repented and welcomed Him as my Saviour and Lord, He imparted Peace to me as well as flooding my heart with His love. I discovered that the Holy Spirit produces fruit. This is the character of Jesus as He is established in His followers.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Galatians 5: 22-23)

So Peace is part of our legacy as we dwell in Christ. When life becomes crazy or painful or whatever, Jesus as our companion imparts a Peace that passes understanding.

Are you in a difficult place – Turn and welcome Jesus to engage you and direct you, leading you in His ways. Ask for wisdom and counsel. Follow Him. One of the consequences of this journey with Him is Peace. Try it! He is faithful to engage all who turn to him.

