SONG OF PEACE Luke 2:10-14; Ephesians 2:11-19

Where do we need peace? Luke 2:14; Eph. 2:11-16

- Peace with <u>one</u> another. Luke 2:14; Eph. 2:11-15; Phil. 2:2-5; Rom. 12:18; Matt. 18:15; Rom. 14:19; Luke 18:9-23; 19:1-10; Mark 12:31
- Peace <u>within</u> ourselves. Phil. 4:6-7; Matt. 6:24-34; 1 Pet. 5:7; Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 10:3-5; Gal. 5:22; Matt. 5:9
- Peace is needed with <u>God</u>. Luke 2:10-16; Rom. 5:1-10; Eph. 2:13-16; 2 Cor. 5:18-19; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:21; John 14:27

What is the price of peace? Luke 2:10-14; Eph. 2:13-17

- <u>Surrender</u>. Luke 2:10-14; Phil. 2:6-8; John 17:4; Matt. 26:39-42; John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38
- <u>Sacrifice</u>. Eph. 2:13-17; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:24; Heb. 12:2; Matt 26:59-68; 27:11-37; Rom. 8:3-4
- <u>Silence</u>. 1 Pet. 2:22-24; Is. 53:7; Matt. 26:63-64; John 19:9; Matt. 27:11-14

What do we do now?

- Are we seeking a truce or peace with God?
- Are we peace makers or peace breakers?
- Are we living out God's peace?

World Peace

An occurrence of harmony characterized by lack of violence, conflict behaviors and the freedom from fear of violence. Commonly understood as the absence of hostility and retribution, peace also suggests sincere attempts at reconciliation, the existence of healthy or newly healed interpersonal or international relationships, prosperity in matters of social or economic welfare, the establishment of equality, and a working political order that serves the true interests of all.

Biblical Peace

The key element in true, lasting peace is the presence of God. Isaiah says to God, "The steadfast of mind you will keep in perfect peace, because he trusts in you" (26:3). Christ is our peace—His presence is the presence of peace within us (<u>Eph. 2:14</u>). And so Jesus declares, "In Me you may have peace" (<u>John 16:33</u>). It is an inner sense of contentment and quietness, regardless of life's circumstances. It is steadfast confidence in our ever-faithful, immutable heavenly Father. It is the presence of joy in the midst of unhappiness. - Charles Stanley

Focus on God. Perfect peace comes when you fix your mind on God.

Trust Him. You never have to worry about God acting too late or providing insufficient help. His timing and purposes are perfect.

Meditate on His Word. <u>Psalm 119:165</u> emphasizes that those who love God's Word have great peace. – Charles Stanley

Biblical Peace

God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing. - C.S. Lewis

I have to get to the point of the absolute and unquestionable relationship that takes everything exactly as it comes from Him. God never guides us at some time in the future, but always here and now. Realize that the Lord is here now, and the freedom you receive is immediate. – Oswald Chambers

Blessed are the single-hearted, for they shall enjoy much peace... If you refuse to be hurried and pressed, if you stay your soul on God, nothing can keep you from that clearness of spirit which is life and peace. In that stillness you know what His will is. – Amy Carmichael