



MAIN SCRIPTURES

- II Peter 1:2
- Isaiah 26:3-4
- Hebrews 12:14-15

PERFECT PEACE

- If This, Then Peace, So...
- Peace With, From, Of...
- Peace For You...

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

“Grace to you and **peace** be **multiplied** in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,” 2 Peter 1:2 WEBUS

“Being therefore **justified by faith**, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ;” Romans 5:1 WEBUS

“You will keep **whoever’s mind is steadfast in perfect peace**, because he trusts in you.” Isaiah 26:3 WEBUS

“And **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:7 WEBUS

“**If it is possible, as much as it is up to you, be at peace with all men.**” Romans 12:18 WEBUS

“**Follow after peace with all men**, and the sanctification without which no man will see the Lord,” Hebrews 12:14 WEBUS

“**Yahweh lift up his face toward you, and give you peace.**”
Numbers 6:26 WEBUS

INTRODUCTION: Perfect Peace

Peace is a many-faceted concept. In light of God's promises, His perfect peace was made available to you when you became a child of God. God's word ensures that you came to a place of peace with God at the moment of your redemption, and there remains nothing more to reconcile between you and God. God continues to offer you His peace, and that comes from your continued dependence on and trust in Him, no matter what difficulties and challenges you might endure.

Then, you are able to experience the peace of God that projects beyond any human understanding, if you are willing. This supernatural peace is there, waiting for you to encounter, but it is not guaranteed; you must pray, petition, and thank God, while you make your specific requests known. If you will worship and commune with God; convey a sense of urgency that reflects your deepest personal desires; and express your profound gratefulness for God's grace, provision, and blessings; and do so while making your appeal with utter humility, then, "The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your heart and thoughts." There is no magic here; you are simply standing on God's promise because, "The insistent prayer of a righteous man is powerfully effective." Then, take the peace you have with, from, and of God and steward it faithfully by aspiring to live at peace with all men!

IF THIS, THEN PEACE, SO...

1. If this, then that, so...

A. Precious Promises

(1) Introduction

(a) Through these you may...

1. “by which he has granted to us his **precious and exceedingly great promises [14 in total]; that through these you may...**” 2 Peter 1:4 WEBUS

a) Yes granted, but you **may**, not **will** receive them, because... **If—Then—So...**

1) **If...** “*If these things are yours and abound...*”

Then... “...they make you to not be idle or unfruitful... 2 Peter 1:8

2) **If...** “*be more diligent to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things...*”

Then... “you will never stumble.” 2 Peter 1:10

3) **So...** “*I will not be negligent to remind you...*” 2 Peter 1:12

(2) If this, then that is nothing new in the Bible

(a) If you obey or disobey...

1. “It shall happen, **if you shall listen diligently to Yahweh your God’s voice**, to observe to do all his commandments which I command you today, that

Yahweh your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. **All these blessings** will come upon you, and overtake you, **if you listen to Yahweh your God's voice.**" Deuteronomy 28:1-2 WEBUS

a) If you obey, then blessings!

2. "But it shall come to pass, **if you will not listen to Yahweh your God's voice**, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command you today, that **all these curses** will come on you and overtake you." Deuteronomy 28:15 WEBUS

a) If you do not obey, then curses!

(b) If you wish to be My disciple...

1. "**If anyone comes to me, and doesn't** disregard his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, **he can't be my disciple. Whoever doesn't** bear his own cross and come after me, **can't be my disciple.** {33} So therefore, whoever of you **who doesn't renounce all** that he has, he **can't be my disciple.**" Luke 14:26-27, 33 WEBUS

a) If you don't, you can't!

(c) You are His disciple, if...

1. "Jesus therefore said to those Jews who had believed him, **"If you remain in my word, then** you are truly my disciples." John 8:31 WEBUS
2. "By this everyone will know that **you are my disciples, if** you have love for one another."" John 13:35 WEBUS
3. **"You are my friends if** you do whatever I command you." John 15:14 WEBUS
 - a) You are His disciple, if you remain in His word.
 - b) You are His disciple, if you love others.
 - c) You are His friend, if you do whatever He commands.

(3) Precious and exceedingly great promises...

(a) ***"For if these things are yours and abound..."***

2 Peter 1:8

1. **...that through these you may..."** 2 Peter 1:4

a) Experience the fullness of God's Provisional Promise #2: **PEACE...**

1) *"Grace to you and **peace** be **multiplied** in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,"*

2 Peter 1:2 WEBUS

B. Definitions

(1) What is Peace?

(a) Hebrew

1. “The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you **peace**.” ” Numbers 6:26 NKJV

a) **Shalom**: Often translated as peace, completeness, welfare, or safety. It is a multifaceted Hebrew word that encompasses a range of meanings related to peace and completeness. It signifies not only the absence of conflict but also the presence of positive blessings such as health, safety, and prosperity. Shalom is used to describe harmonious relationships between individuals, nations, and between God and humanity. It also conveys a sense of wholeness and well-being, both physically and spiritually.

(b) Greek

1. “Being therefore justified by faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ;” Romans 5:1
WEBUS

a) **Eiréné (i-ray'-nay)**: Primarily denotes a state of tranquility, harmony, and well-being. It is used to describe both the absence of conflict and the presence of positive blessings, such as safety, prosperity, and spiritual peace. The term is often

associated with the peace that comes from a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ, as well as the peace that believers are called to maintain with one another.

(c) English

1. “The feeling of peace, or peace of mind, or peace in the world.”

a) Freedom from disturbance; a feeling of tranquility; mental calm and serenity; freedom from dispute or dissension between individuals or groups; free from anxiety or distress or dread; used to suggest that someone has escaped from the difficulties of life; a state of friendliness, restfulness, quietness, composure, ease, comfort, contentment.

(2) What does peace look like—ease regardless of what is transpiring around you?

(a) It looks like contentment...

1. “Now **godliness with contentment** is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.” I Timothy 6:6-7 NKJV

a) **Godliness with contentment:** the feeling of being completely satisfied because you are in pursuit of

God's will in every area of your life, not because you have already obtained all you are seeking.

(b) It looks like joy...

1. "Count **it all joy**, my brothers, when you fall into various temptations, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let endurance have its **perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.**" James 1:2-4 WEBUS
2. "**In this you greatly rejoice**, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved in various trials, **that the proof of your faith**, which is more precious than gold that perishes, even though it is tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ— whom, not having known, you love. In him, though now you don't see him, yet believing, **you rejoice greatly with joy** that is unspeakable and full of glory, receiving the **result of your faith**, the salvation of your souls."
1 Peter 1:6-9 WEBUS
3. "**Not only this, but we also rejoice in our sufferings**, knowing that suffering produces perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and **hope doesn't disappoint us**,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."

Romans 5:3-5 WEBUS

- a) **Joy:** a feeling of peace and happiness that is not connected to external circumstances. Inner contentment derived from a dynamic and trusting relationship with God, regardless of the trials you are enduring at the present time.

(c) How do you do that? {a participatory activity}

1. "In nothing **be anxious**, but in everything, by **prayer** and **petition** with **thanksgiving**, let your **requests** be made known to God. And **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

WEBUS

- a) **Prayer:** worship and communication with God. It encompasses various forms of prayer, including supplication, intercession, thanksgiving, and adoration—emphasizing a personal and communal relationship with Him; a direct communication with a personal God
- b) **Petitions:** a heartfelt petition or supplication directed towards God. It conveys a sense of

earnestness and urgency in prayer, reflecting a deep personal need or desire. Used to describe prayers that are specific and fervent, often in the context of seeking divine intervention or assistance.

- c) **Thanksgiving:** denotes the act of giving thanks or expressing gratitude. It is often used in the context of prayer and worship, highlighting an attitude of thankfulness towards God for His grace, provision, and blessings. The term underscores the importance of recognizing God's goodness and responding with a heart of gratitude.
- d) **Requests:** refers to a specific request or petition made by an individual. It is often used in the context of prayer or supplication to God, highlighting the act of asking or making a request with a sense of earnestness and humility.
- e) **Do that and...** *"The **peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus."*
 - 1) **Because...** *"The **effective, fervent prayer** of a righteous man **avails much** (The insistent prayer*

of a righteous man is powerfully effective)."

James 5:16

- 2) **So...** *"...consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed in you."*

Romans 8:18

PEACE WITH, FROM, OF...

2. Peace Multiplied: Let's get personal...

A. Peace WITH God

- (1) To have peace with God because you have been reconciled to God and bear the fruit of righteousness.

(a) Faith

1. "Being therefore **justified by faith**, we have **peace with** God through our Lord Jesus Christ; through whom we also have our access by faith into this grace in which we stand. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 WEBUS

- a) By grace through faith, you have been redeemed for all eternity. That justification has canceled all debts; there remains nothing more to reconcile between you and God.

(b) Spirit

1. “For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but **those who live according to the Spirit**, the things of the Spirit. For the mind of the flesh is death, **but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace;**” Romans 8:5-6 WEBUS

a) Those who live according to the Holy Spirit, live in the peace of God because the thoughts of the Spirit are life and peace.

(c) Wisdom

1. “For where jealousy and selfish ambition are, there is confusion and every evil deed. **But the wisdom that is from above** is first pure, then **peaceful**, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. **Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.**” James 3:16-18 WEBUS

a) The wisdom of God is peaceful, and when you sow His peace, there is a harvest of righteousness.

(d) Righteousness

1. “**The work of righteousness will be peace**, and **the effect of righteousness, quietness and confidence forever. My people will live in a peaceful habitation, in safe dwellings, and in quiet resting places**, though

hail flattens the forest, and the city is leveled completely.” Isaiah 32:17-19 WEBUS

- a) Peace with God is the fruit of one who practices righteousness.
- b) Righteousness yields a serene and confident life.
- c) When you pursue righteousness, you can live in peace, regardless of the chaos that surrounds you.

B. Peace FROM God

(1) To receive peace from God because you are now a child of God; He is there to listen and provide.

(a) Trust

1. “You will keep **whoever’s mind is steadfast in perfect peace**, because he trusts in you. **Trust in Yahweh** forever; for in Yah, Yahweh, is an everlasting Rock.”

Isaiah 26:3-4 WEBUS

2. “Also delight yourself in Yahweh, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to Yahweh. **Trust also in him**, and he will do this:”

Psalms 37:4-5 WEBUS

3. “**Be still, and know that I am God**. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth.”

Yahweh of Armies is with us. The God of Jacob is our **refuge. Selah.**” Psalms 46:10-11 WEBUS

- a) What does it mean to be steadfast? It means to trust in the Lord at all times!
- b) When you have committed to obey Yahweh then you can put your mind at ease
- c) You can rest in these facts: He never changes; He will do what He promised; He will fight your battles with His armies; and He never loses!

(b) Seek

1. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you," says Yahweh, "**thoughts of peace**, and not of evil, to give you hope and a future. **You shall call on me, and you shall go and pray to me, and I will listen to you.** You shall **seek me** and **find me**, when you **search for me with all your heart.**" Jeremiah 29:11-13 WEBUS
2. "**Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.** Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and **you will find rest for your souls.** For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30 WEBUS
3. "**Humble yourselves** therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time, **casting all**

your worries on him, because he cares for you.”

1 Peter 5:6-7 WEBUS

- a) God has a plan for your life and it is a good plan.
- b) When you seek Yahweh, if you are authentic, you will always find the answers in Him.
- c) Go to Him in times of greatest distress and He will take on all your burdens; and you will find complete peace in your soul.
- d) Be humble and place every burden in His hands and then you can relax; you can be certain in Him.

(c) Confidence

1. “No temptation has taken you except what is common to man. God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above what you are able, but will with the temptation **also make the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.**” 1 Corinthians 10:13 WEBUS

2. “Now thanks be to God who always **leads us in triumph in Christ**, and reveals through us the sweet aroma of his knowledge in every place.”

2 Corinthians 2:14 WEBUS

3. “We know that **all things work together for good** for those who love God, for those who are called

according to his purpose. What then shall we say about these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Could oppression, or anguish, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, **nor any other created thing will be able to separate us** from God's love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:28, 31, 35, 37-39

WEBUS

- a) No matter what, there is always a path to victory.
 - b) Everything works to the benefit of God's children when your love for God is authentic.
 - c) When you measure your challenges against who God is to you, you can be confident you will have the victory every time.
- (d) Receive
1. **"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you;** not as the world gives, I give to you. Don't let your heart

be troubled, neither let it be fearful.” John 14:27

WEBUS

2. **“I have told you these things, that in me you may have peace.** In the world you have trouble; but cheer up! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33 WEBUS
 - a) You can live with perfect peace if you will just accept His offer. Do so and your troubles and fears will vanish.
 - b) Y’shua knows that the dying world comes against His bride and that is why He assured us in advance that you can have His peace even in the midst of attack!

(e) Zeal

1. “Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, “Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, in that he was **jealous with my jealousy** [***zealous with My zeal***] among them, so that I didn’t consume the children of Israel in my jealousy. Therefore say, **‘Behold, I give to him my covenant of peace.** It shall be to him, and to his offspring after him, the covenant of an everlasting priesthood, because he was **jealous** [***zealous***] for his

God, and made atonement for the children of Israel.'"" Numbers 25:10-13 WEBUS

- a) **A Covenant of Peace:** (See Numbers 25:1-15) One of the children of Israel (Zimri, the son of Salu {v. 14}) came and brought to his brothers a Midianite woman (Cozbi, the daughter of Zur. {v. 15}) in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, and they were weeping at the door of the Tent of Meeting. Phinehas rose up from the middle of the congregation, took a spear and thrust both of them through.
- b) This is the type of jealousy for God and His ways that He wants from you. It's a zeal for God that places Him above all things.
- c) Try it and you will have a peace from God that is worth more than anything you had to sacrifice to make Him number one in your life.

C. Peace OF God

(1) The peace of God you can experience because you purposely seek the peace that is only available to a reconciled child of God.

- (a) We already saw this...

1. “In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by **prayer** and **petition** with **thanksgiving**, let your **requests** be made known to God.” Philippians 4:6 WEBUS
 - a) **Prayer:** worship and a personal relationship with Him; direct communication.
 - b) **Petitions:** a heartfelt prayers that are specific and fervent, often in the context of seeking divine intervention or assistance.
 - c) **Thanksgiving:** an attitude of thankfulness towards God for His grace, provision, and blessings; recognizing God’s goodness with a heart of gratitude.
 - d) **Requests:** the act of asking or making a specific request with a sense of earnestness and humility.
- (b) The Result...
 1. “And **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will **guard your hearts and your thoughts** in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7 WEBUS
- (c) But how can the peace of God guard your heart and mind?
 1. “Finally, brothers, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **honorable [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 **worthy of praise**, **think about [meditate on] these things**. Do the things which you learned, received, heard, and saw in me, and **the God of peace will be with you.**" Philippians 4:8-9 WEBUS

a) Meditate on these things...

1) "Blessed is the man who doesn't walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand on the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in Yahweh's law. **On his law he meditates day and night.**" Psalms 1:1-2 WEBUS

2) How? Daily Preparation of your mind

a. **The renewing of your mind!** "Don't be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what is the good, well-pleasing, and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2

WEBUS

b. **Take every thought into captivity!** "throwing down imaginations and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God and **bringing every thought into captivity to the**

obedience of Christ," 2 Corinthians 10:5

WEBUS

b) What are the the things we should meditate upon?

1) Whatever is True: Truth—God’s word; Y’shua is the word incarnate!

a. **The Word is Truth!** “The entirety of Your **word is truth**, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.” Psalms 119:160 NKJV

b. “Sanctify them by Your truth. **Your word is truth.**” John 17:17 NKJV

c. **Y’shua is the Word!** “**The Word became flesh** and lived among us. We saw his glory, such glory as of the only born Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14 WEBUS

d. **Y’shua is the Truth!** “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, **the truth**, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.” John 14:6 WEBUS

e. **This is how to walk in truth (imitate Him):** “But God’s love has most certainly been perfected **in whoever keeps his word**. This is how we know that we are in him: **he who**

says he remains in him ought himself also to walk just like he walked.” 1 John 2:5-6

WEBUS

2) Whatever is Noble: Honorable, Royal

- a. **Search the Scriptures!** “Now these **were more noble** than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, **examining the Scriptures daily** to see whether these things were so.” Acts 17:11

WEBUS

- b. **Glorify God, not yourself:** “He who speaks from himself **seeks his own glory**, but he who **seeks the glory of him who sent him** is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.” John 7:18

WEBUS

3) Whatever is Just: Justice, fairness, equity

- a. **Bring your case before a just God and a Savior!** “**Declare and present it [your case].** Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has shown this from ancient time? Who has declared it of old? Haven’t I, Yahweh? **There is no other God besides me, a just God and a**

Savior. There is no one besides me." Isaiah
45:21 WEBUS

b. **Righteous Judgement:** "God is a righteous
judge, yes, a God who has indignation every
day." Psalms 7:11 WEBUS

c. **Justice elevates Yahweh:** "but Yahweh of
Armies **is exalted in justice**, and God the
Holy One is sanctified in righteousness."
Isaiah 5:16 WEBUS

4) Whatever is Pure: undefiled, unmixed, whole,
with integrity.

a. **Pure in Heart!** "Blessed are the **pure in heart**,
for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8 WEBUS

b. **Cleanse Your Way!** "How can a young man
**keep his way pure? By living according to
your word.**" Psalms 119:9 WEBUS

c. **Sexual Purity:** "For this is **the will of God:**
your **sanctification**, that you **abstain from
sexual immorality,**" 1 Thessalonians 4:3
WEBUS

5) Whatever is Lovely: things which are beautiful
in God's eyes

- a. **Those who bring good news!** “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of him who **brings good news**, who **publishes peace**, who brings good news, who **proclaims salvation**, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”” Isaiah 52:7 WEBUS
- 6) Whatever is Uplifting: A good report; and uplifting conversation
 - a. **Whatever comes from God is good:** “May it never be! Yes, **let God be found true, but every man a liar**. As it is written, “that you might be justified in your words, and might prevail when you come into judgment.”” Romans 3:4 WEBUS
 - b. **Nothing corrupt from your mouth!** “Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but only what is good for building others up as the need may be, that it may give grace to those who hear.” Ephesians 4:29 WEBUS
 - c. **Whose report shall you believe? Believe the report of the Lord!** “Who has believed our message [report]? To whom has Yahweh’s arm been revealed?” Isaiah 53:1 WEBUS

- 7) Whatever is Virtuous: Virtue—what is right in God’s eyes; what is on Yahweh’s heart.
- a. **To your faith first seek the Lord’s heart:** “Yes, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, **in your faith supply moral excellence [virtue]**; and in moral excellence, knowledge;” 2 Peter 1:5 WEBUS
 - b. **Do what is right!** “To him therefore who knows **to do good** and doesn’t do it, to him it is sin.” James 4:17 WEBUS
 - c. **Shine His light through you:** “Even so, **let your light shine before men**, that they may see **your good works** and glorify your Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 5:16 WEBUS
- 8) Whatever is Praiseworthy: Yahweh is to be praised above all!
- a. **Praise Yahweh in EVERYTHING, for EVERYTHING, and with EVERYTHING!**
“Praise Yah! Praise God **in his sanctuary!**
Praise him **in his heavens** for his acts of power! Praise him **for his mighty acts!** Praise him **according to his excellent greatness!**
Praise him **with the sounding of the trumpet!**

Praise him **with harp and lyre!** Praise him **with tambourine and dancing!** Praise him **with stringed instruments and flute!** Praise him **with loud cymbals!** Praise him **with resounding cymbals!** Let everything that has breath praise Yah! Praise Yah!” Psalms

150:1-6 WEBUS

- b. **Praise Yahweh beyond EVERYTHING!** “Great is Yahweh, and **greatly to be praised!** His greatness is unsearchable.” Psalms 145:3

WEBUS

(2) The peace of God from...

(a) Love

- 1. “**Above all these things, walk in love,** which is the bond of perfection. **And let the peace of God rule in your hearts,** to which also you were called in one body, and be thankful. **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;** in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.” Colossians 3:14-16 WEBUS

- a) Let the love of God compel you and the peace of God will invade you.

(b) Preparation

1. “But **the day of the Lord will come** as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fervent heat; and the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, **since all these things will be destroyed like this, what kind of people ought you to be in holy living and godliness**, looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, which will cause the burning heavens to be dissolved, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? **But, according to his promise**, we look for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.” 2 Peter 3:10-13 WEBUS

- a) Since you know what is coming, how ought you be living as a child of God?
- b) Be holy: set apart for God
- c) Be godly: doing the will of God in every area of your life.

(c) Payoff

1. “Therefore, beloved, **seeing that you look for these things, be diligent to be found in peace**, without

defect and blameless in his sight." 2 Peter 3:14

WEBU

a) The peace of God!

D. Peace with, from, and of...

(1) Peace with others because you choose to trust God, love others, and live righteously.

(a) Peace with others

1. **"Blessed are the peacemakers,** for they shall be called children of God." Matthew 5:9 WEBUS

a) Prayer:

2. "Repay no one evil for evil. Respect what is honorable in the sight of all men. {18} **If it is possible, as much as it is up to you, be at peace with all men.** Don't seek revenge yourselves, beloved, but give place to God's wrath. For it is written, "Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, says the Lord."" Romans 12:17-19 WEBUS

a) Be the bearer of peace in every situation and relationship.

b) You cannot control others, but you can control yourself.

c) So... to the degree that you can influence circumstances and people, be the arbiter of peace.

3. **“Follow after peace with all men,** and the sanctification without which no man will see the Lord, looking carefully **lest there be any man who falls** short of the grace of God, lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you and many be defiled by it,” Hebrews 12:14-15 WEBUS

- a) Being a peacemaker is part of your sanctification process.
- b) I am sure you have experienced this; the more mature you become as a Christian, the more you are able to bring peace into your relationships.

(b) Don't cause others to sin...

1. “For he **who serves Christ in these things** is acceptable to God and approved by men. **So then, let's follow after things which make for peace, and things by which we may build one another up.**”

Romans 14:18-19 WEBUS

- a) Serve God in what things? Follow after what things? What brings peace? How do you build up a brother?
- b) “Don't overthrow God's work for food's sake. All things indeed are clean, however it is evil for that man who creates a stumbling block by eating. It is

good to not eat meat, drink wine, **nor do anything by which your brother stumbles, is offended, or is made weak.**” Romans 14:20-21 WEBUS

- 1) Don't ruin a brother's faith walk by making him feel guilty for not knowing something, understanding something, or being too immature in the faith to implement something!
2. **“Whoever will cause one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble,** it would be better for him if he were thrown into the sea with a millstone hung around his neck. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having your two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire, ‘where their worm doesn't die, and the fire is not quenched.’ If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life lame, rather than having your two feet to be cast into Gehenna, into the fire that will never be quenched— ‘where their worm doesn't die, and the fire is not quenched.’ If your eye causes you to stumble, throw it out. It is better for you to enter into God's Kingdom with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into the Gehenna of fire,

‘where their worm doesn’t die, and the fire is not quenched.’ **For everyone will be salted with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt.**” Mark 9:42-49 WEBUS

- a) Don’t do anything to make a less mature Christian stumble!
- b) Instead, be salty! Salt is only useful if it can add flavor and preserve food from rotting. If salt loses its character traits and thus its benefits, then it becomes useless.
- c) Don’t be useless salt! Be salty and thus a source of peace for others.
 - 1) *“Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, with what will you season it? **Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.**”*

Mark 9:50 WEBUS

(c) Peace with your enemies

- 1. “By mercy and truth iniquity is atoned for. By the fear of Yahweh men depart from evil. **When a man’s ways please Yahweh, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.**” Proverbs 16:6-7 WEBUS

- a) Focus on living a life that pleases God, and even your enemies will want to be at peace with you!

2. “But you, brothers, **don’t be weary in doing what is right. If any man doesn’t obey** our word in this letter, note that man and have no company with him, to the end that he may be ashamed. **Don’t count him as an enemy**, but admonish him as a brother. Now may **the Lord of peace himself give you peace** at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all.” 2 Thessalonians 3:13-16 WEBUS

- a) You must separate from those who consistently violate God, however don’t consider that man your enemy.
- b) Surely you cannot seek to receive peace from that man, but you should correct him as you would if you loved him as a brother.
- c) And let the Lord of peace be the provider of your peace.

PEACE FOR YOU

3. The Blessing, Prayer, Admonition of Peace for You!

A. The Blessing

(1) The Aaronic (priestly) Blessing

(a) This is how you shall bless God’s children...

1. "Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, 'This is how you shall bless the children of Israel.' You shall tell them, '**Yahweh bless you, and keep you. Yahweh make his face to shine on you, and be gracious to you. Yahweh lift up his face toward you, and give you peace.**' "So they shall put my name on the children of Israel; and I will bless them.'" Numbers 6:22-27 WEBUS

- a) Yahweh bless you: invoking divine favor, expressing gratitude, or bestowing prosperity.
- b) Yahweh keep you: careful attention and protection
- c) Yahweh make His face to shine on you: make the presence of His divine light and truth bathe you.
- d) Yahweh be gracious to you: the act of showing favor or grace. God is extending His grace and mercy on your.
- e) Yahweh lift up his face toward you: removing your burdens, again because of His presence, His countenance or the expression reflecting His loving and gracious emotions or attitude toward you
- f) Yahweh give you peace: Shalom! Shalom is a multifaceted Hebrew word that encompasses a

range of meanings related to peace and completeness. It signifies not only the absence of conflict but also the presence of positive blessings such as health, safety, and prosperity. Shalom is used to describe harmonious relationships between individuals, nations, and between God and humanity. It also conveys a sense of wholeness and well-being, both physically and spiritually.

(b) Just in case you think you are not entitled to the blessing for the priesthood!

1. “You also as living stones are built up as a spiritual house, **to be a holy priesthood**, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Because it is contained in Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen and precious. He who believes in him will not be disappointed.” For you who believe therefore is the honor, but for those who are disobedient, “The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone,” and, “a stumbling stone and a rock of offense.” For they stumble at the word, being disobedient, to which also they were appointed. {9} But you are a chosen race, **a royal priesthood**, a holy nation, a people for God’s

own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." 1 Peter 2:5-9 WEBUS

- a) Prophetic Note: Two priesthood
 - 1) The Earthly Priesthood: from the line of Leviticus (From Moses to Aaron and his sons).
 - 2) The Holy and Royal Priesthood: from the kingly line of Judah (From David and his sons).
 - 3) Note: the eternal Priesthood of Melchizedek (Read Hebrews 5)
 - a. *"As he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, **after the order of Melchizedek.**"*" Hebrews 5:6 WEBUS (from Psalm 110:4)

B. The Prayer

- (1) You lack nothing!
 - (a) Peace that comes from knowing everything is covered!
 - 1. "Yahweh is my shepherd; **I shall lack nothing.** He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your

rod and your staff, they comfort me. **You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.** You anoint my head with oil. My cup runs over. **Surely goodness and loving kindness shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in Yahweh's house forever.**" Psalms 23:1-6 WEBUS

- a) Consistent with Peter's very claim in 2 Peter!
 - 1) *"seeing that his divine power has **granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue,**" 2 Peter 1:3 WEBUS*
- b) Consistent with Paul's claim!
 - 1) *"We know **that all things work together for good** for those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 WEBUS*
- c) Consistent with James claim in James
 - 1) *"Let endurance have its perfect work, that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.**" James 1:4 WEBUS*

C. The Admonition

- (1) Live in Peace!
 - (a) A Final Word

1. “Finally, brothers, **rejoice!** Be **perfected**. Be **comforted**. Be of the **same mind**. **Live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.**”

2 Corinthians 13:11 WEBUS

a) Commentary {LOOK UP GREEK}

- 1) **Rejoice!** To be cheerful, calmly happy or well-off; as salutation, be well. The Greek verb “chairó” primarily means to rejoice or be glad. It conveys a sense of inner joy and delight, often in response to God’s grace and goodness. In the New Testament, it is frequently used to express the joy that believers experience through their relationship with Christ and the hope of salvation.
- 2) **Be perfected!** Aim for perfect harmony; to complete thoroughly. The verb ‘katartizó” carries the sense of making something complete or whole. It is used in the New Testament to describe the process of restoring something to its original or intended state, equipping someone for a task, or perfecting a person or thing. This term often implies a sense of repair or preparation, whether it be mending nets,

restoring relationships, or equipping believers for spiritual maturity.

- 3) **Be comforted!** Encourage one another. From *para* and *kaleo*; to call near, invite, invoke. The verb “*parakaleó*” is used in the New Testament to convey a range of meanings centered around the idea of calling someone to one’s side for the purpose of exhortation, encouragement, comfort, or urging. It is often used in contexts where believers are encouraged to live out their faith, comfort one another in times of distress, or be urged to adhere to the teachings of Christ. The term reflects both a personal and communal aspect of the Christian life, emphasizing the importance of mutual support and encouragement within the body of Christ.
- 4) **Be of the same mind (one mind):** In the context of Koine Greek, the language of the New Testament, pronouns like “*αὐτός*” were essential for the fluidity and clarity of communication. Greek, unlike English, often omits the subject pronoun because the verb conjugation indicates the subject. However,

"αὐτός" is used when there is a need to emphasize or specify the subject or object, reflecting the speaker's intent to highlight a particular person or thing. This usage is consistent with the broader Greco-Roman linguistic practices of the time. The verb "phroneó" primarily refers to the act of thinking or having a particular mindset. It encompasses the ideas of setting one's mind on something, having an attitude, or being disposed in a certain way. In the New Testament, it often implies a deliberate choice of thought or attitude, reflecting one's values and priorities. It can denote both positive and negative mindsets, depending on the context.

(2) Summary

(a) ***"Rejoice! Be perfected, comforted, and of one mind. Live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you."*** 2 Corinthians 13:11

1. Live with joy because of God's grace and your relationship with Christ; God's intent is to equip every believer to become spiritual maturity adults; encourage one another to live out the Christian life in

every environment; every one of you should be thinking the very same thing, the deliberate choice to have the same thoughts or attitude, all reflecting shared values and priorities as Christians.

2. That is how the peace with God, from God, and of God will live in you all and between you all!

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. Define peace.

- A. What does true peace look like in the face of trials and controversy?
- B. How is godliness with contentment (I Tim. 6:6-7) related to the concept of peace?

2. Define Joy.

- A. What do we learn from the Bible about joy in the midst of trials? (See: James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 1:6-9; Romans 5:3-5)

3. What do we learn from Philippians 4:6-7 about how to achieve peace in times when we are tempted to feel anxious.

- A. What four things must you do to experience a peace that surpasses all understanding?
- B. How does James 5:16 ensure the above is true?

4. Describe what it means to have peace with God.

A. Use the following passages to assist your answer: (Romans 5:1-2; Romans 8:5-6; James 3:16-18; Isaiah 32:17-19)

5. Describe what it means to have peace from God.

A. Use the following passages to assist your answer:

(1) If you trust Him: (Isaiah 26:3-4; Psalms 37:4-5; Psalms 46:10-11)

(2) If you seek Him: (Jeremiah 29:11-13; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Peter 5:6-7)

(3) If you have confidence in Him: (1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Corinthians 2:14; Romans 8:28-39)

(4) If you have received from Him: (John 14:27; John 16:33)

(5) If you have zeal for Him: (Numbers 25:1-15)

6. Describe what it means to have the peace of God.

A. Use the following passages to assist your answer:

(1) If you love Him: (Colossians 3:14-16)

(2) If you are prepared: (2 Peter 3:10-14)

(3) In addition to the four things you named in question number 3, what eight things does Philippians 4:8-9 teach us to do? (Name and define them.)

7. Describe what it means that you are called to have peace with others.

A. Use the following passages to assist your answer:

(1) Peace with others: (Matthew 5:9; Romans 12:17-19; Hebrews 12:14-15)

(2) Don't cause others to sin: (Romans 14:18-21; Mark 9:42-50)

(3) Peace with your enemies: (Proverbs 16:6-7; 2 Thessalonians 3:13-16)

8. "Finally, brothers, rejoice! Be perfected. Be comforted. Be of the same mind. Live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you." 2 Corinthians 13:11 WEBUS

A. What does it mean to: rejoice, be perfected, be comforted, be of the same mind?

B. Bonus: memorize Psalm 23