

Experience Peace

Pastor Craig Sweeney | December 14, 2025

Thread: Peace changes how I experience my life.

“Awe fell upon the whole neighborhood, and the news of what had happened spread throughout the Judean hills. Everyone who heard about it reflected on these events and asked, ‘What will this child turn out to be?’ For the hand of the Lord was surely upon him in a special way.

“Then his father, Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit and gave this prophecy: ‘Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and redeemed his people. He has sent us a mighty Savior from the royal line of his servant David, just as he promised through his holy prophets long ago.

“Now we will be saved from our enemies and from all who hate us. He has been merciful to our ancestors by remembering his sacred covenant—the covenant he swore with an oath to our ancestor Abraham. We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live.”
Luke 1:65-75 NLT

Jesus can’t bring real PEACE unless He is mighty.

“And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord. You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins. Because of God’s tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.”
Luke 1:75-79 NLT

The path of peace is revealed to us by the Prince of Peace.

3 Kinds of Peace.

1. Eternal peace

- Through Christ we are able to stop striving/struggling with God.
- Our peace is not of this world.
- I can have peace with God not because I have become GOOD, but because He has forgiven me.

“...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved...For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

Romans 10: 9-10,12-13 ESV

- I experience peace because I know the outcome of the story.

2. At peace with others

- Resolving of conflict
- We literally have exactly what we need to resolve and heal any offense.
- Forgive as you have been forgiven.

“Then Peter came to him and asked, ‘Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?’ ‘No, not seven times,’ Jesus replied, ‘but seventy times seven!’”
Matthew 18:21-22 NLT

“Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’”
Matthew 18:32-33 NLT

3. Living as a peacemaker

- Helping others find peace with God

“God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.”
Matthew 5:9 NLT

- Tell others WHY you follow Christ.
- Helping others to find Eternal Peace and Peace with others.

Challenge:

- Do I have eternal peace?
- Am I at peace with others?
- Who could I be a peacemaker to?

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