“Peace I Leave with You”

(John 14:27-31)
8-3-2025

Introduction:

- **No Need to Fear, the Peace of Jesus is Here!**

5 Features of the Peace of Jesus Christ!

I. **It is a Peace Left to us after Christ’s Earthly Mission was Accomplished (v.28-31)**
(“Peace I leave with you”)

II. **It is a Peace which has it’s Source in Jesus Christ**
(“My peace I give unto you”)

III. **It is a Peace which Freely Flows to us from Jesus Christ**
(“My Peace I give unto you”)

IV. **It is a Peace which is Only Promised to Christ’s Believing Disciples**
(“I give unto you”)

V. **It is a Peace which is Different than the “peace” the World Offers**
(“Not as the world giveth”)

VI. **It is a Peace that Eliminates All Worry & Fear**
(“Let not your Heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid”)

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Introduction:

In a world of turmoil, terror, and trouble, nothing is more soothing to the soul than genuine peace.

Peace is especially needed in light of recent events:

I saw a bumper sticker which said: "Imagine world peace"

There will be no true world peace until the prince of peace comes to establish it.

Man's nature since the fall has been opposed to peace (EX: Cain killed Abel).

Because man is basically selfish, conflict generally occurs whenever someone else gets in the way of what we want.

". . . the popular philosophy of the world, bolstered by the teachings of many psychologists and counselors, is to be put self first. But when self is first, peace is last." (MacArthur, p. 210)

Our natural, unregenerate proneness is toward war not peace; conflict not cooperation; violence not serenity; antagonism not unity; racial discrimination not social harmony; bloodshed not protection of life; hate not love.

The opposite of peace is turmoil, discord, confusion, fighting, and war.

Despite the clamor for peace (as evidenced by marches, rallies, protests, demonstrations, and riots), our society really is opposed to true peace.

Our society exalts violence and war. "The model man is not meek but macho. The model hero is not self-giving but self-seeking, not generous but selfish, not gentle but cruel, not submissive but aggressive, not meek but proud."

If you don't believe that man's natural tendency is bent toward violence, then ask why TV and the movies have so much blood and gore. People pay big money to go to a professional boxing match for the sheer enjoyment of seeing two men attempt to knock the brain out of each other. The main attraction of hockey games has become the brawls and fights.

Because so often our world is characterized by fighting and unloading ammunition at others in a vain quest for sovereignty (power), the scarcity of peace has prompted someone to suggest that "peace is that glorious moment in history when everyone stops to reload" (cited by MacArthur, p. 209).

v. 27
"Peace" = *irenen* – an inner calmness and feeling of security despite outward circumstances

In the 1960's and 70's, the raising of the hand and the extending of the index and middle finger came to symbolize "peace."

Peace means a lot to a Jew, for the typical greeting in Hebrew is *shalom* which means "peace."

"Peace I leave with you" – The Lord Jesus ends this chapter the same way He began it—by encouraging His disciples not to fear, but to find peace which comes from faith in Him (see verse 1).

With Christ's physical departure soon to take place, He gives His disciples some final encouragement, some promises:

--He would prepare a "mansion" for them (v. 2-3a)
--He would return for them (v. 3)
--He would empower them (v. 12)
--He would answer prayer (v. 13-14)
--He would send His Spirit (v. 16-26)
--Now, He would give His peace (which would, of course, come via the Spirit; peace being a fruit of the Spirit – Gal. 5:22)

"Scripture contains over 400 references to peace. . . The Bible opens with peace in the Garden of Eden and closes with peace in eternity" (MacArthur, p. 209)

- **No Need to Fear, the Peace of Jesus is Here!**

5 Features of the Peace of Jesus Christ!

I. It is a Peace <u>Left to us after Christ's Earthly Mission was Accomplished</u> (v.28-31)
("Peace I leave with you")

Although Christ would soon depart, He would not leave His disciples alone as orphans (v. 18); He would come to them in the person of the Holy Spirit and deposit His peace into their hearts.

"Peace I <u>leave with you</u>" – What a great blessing to leave behind!

Christ's departure to the Father is further expanded upon in verses 28-31.

v. 28
"I go away" – After giving His life He would <u>ascend</u> to the Father's right hand.

"I come again unto you" – Here, not speaking of the second coming (as in verse 3), but His coming in the person of the Holy Spirit (as in verse 18).

'If ye loved Me ye would rejoice" - What better place is there to be than with "the Father."

"My Father is greater than I"

The word translated "greater" is "meizon" (μειζων - from "megas"), which compares <u>extent</u>, not essence; <u>degree</u>, not quality. Note: Jesus did <u>not</u> say the Father was "better" than the Son (πλειων - Mt. 5:20; 12:41).

God "the Father," being Spirit (Jn. 4:24) had a more extensive influence on the world than the Son, who was limited to a physical body while on earth. In other words, Jesus being incarnate could only be at one place at one time while on earth (He surrendered the use of His omnipresence for a time - Heb. 2:9). This is why He said that His disciples should "rejoice" when He spoke of His ascension to the Father (v. 28).

After Jesus received a glorified body following the resurrection and after He ascended to Heaven, He was restored to His former greatness (Jn. 17:5; Mt. 18:19; Phil. 2:9). He can now work on a larger scale <u>geographically</u> (cp. v. 12; SEE Eph. 1:20-23, 4:10; Col. 3:11 - "Christ now fills all things").

Though this is not the point in John 14:28, it is also important to note that the Father is greater than the Son in <u>position</u> (headship) in the Trinity (I Cor. 11:3). What the Father DOES, He does THROUGH the Son, BY the Spirit. There is "subordination" in the modes of operation or function, but <u>never any difference in essence</u> mentioned in Scripture.

v. 29
"I have told you before it come to pass" – Jesus is speaking about His death, departure and His coming back to the disciples (v. 28) in the person of the Holy Spirit.

'Ye might believe" – God's predictions and accurate fulfillments produce faith.

v. 30
From this point on, Christ would not have a whole lot more to teach His disciples (basically just the next two chapters of John [15 & 16] and that's it (before His arrest and crucifixion).

"The prince of this world" – a reference here to Satan (cp. 12:31), who would motivate Christ's enemies to arrest, falsely try, humiliate and crucify Him.

"Hath nothing in Me" – He has absolutely no connection to and nothing in common with Jesus Christ (no relationship whatsoever).

He hates Christ with a passion. (Don't be surprised, therefore, when Satan's co-workers hate you as well!)

v. 31
Christ's love for the Father is manifested by His obedience to the Father's will that He should go to the cross.

--He was "obedient unto death event he death of the cross" (Phil. 2:8 cp. Heb. 5:8)

--He "endured the cross" though "despising the shame" (Heb. 12:2)

II. It is a Peace which has it's <u>Source in Jesus Christ</u>
("<u>My peace</u> I give unto you")

This peace is rooted in the person of Christ. It flows exclusively from one source.

This peace does not come from the Virgin Mary, some alleged saint, or from some religious denomination.

Rather, it comes from Jesus and Jesus alone. It is His peace. It belongs to Him (since He is the "prince of peace"). It is the peace He exhibited in the face of the worst suffering ever experienced. It is the peace He dispersed to His disciples throughout the book of Acts and the New Testament era.

--Look to Jesus alone for this peace John 16:33
These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Just as He said, "Peace, be still," to the stormy sea, He can do the same for your stormy life.

III. It is a Peace which <u>Freely Flows to us from Jesus Christ</u>
("My Peace <u>I give</u> unto you")

'I give unto you" – Like salvation, the peace of Jesus is a gift. It is not earned, deserved or inherited. It's free and available to all who believe.

Faith dispels all fear. You don't have to do anything to experience the Lord's peace except to rest in Him and in the promises of His Word.

As Paul said to the Colossians: Col. 3:15
And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

IV. It is a Peace which is <u>Only Promised to Christ's Believing Disciples</u>
("I give unto <u>you</u>")

Four times in one verse Jesus makes reference to **"<u>you</u>."** ("you" in context being His disciples or the ones believing on Him).

This promise of peace is not the experience of all people. Just a small few know this peace (and those onlookers in the world cannot figure out where or how we get it).

Peace <u>with</u> God (Rom. 5:1) must come before you will ever experience the peace <u>of</u> God (Phil. 4:7).

Peace cannot be divorced from holiness. "Righteousness and peace have kissed each other" (Ps. 85:10)

Peace cannot co-exist with wickedness. "There is no peace for the wicked, says the Lord" (Is. 48:22)

V. It is a Peace which is <u>Different than the "peace" the World Offers</u>
("Not as the world giveth")

'Not as the world giveth" – The world's "peace" is not true peace.

1) The world's peace is <u>dependent upon favorable circumstances</u> (Christ's peace can be had in all of life's experiences) (Jn. 16:33 – even in tribulation).

2) The world's peace is often <u>artificially produced</u> (through medication, drugs or alcohol) (no substances but faith brings the Lord's peace).

3) The world's peace comes via a sense of <u>security</u> in <u>man, material things or money</u> (God's peace is not dependent on any "security" this world offers).

4) The world's peace may be <u>here today and gone tomorrow</u> 9Christ's peace lasts forever)

5) The world's peace is deceptive (the ungodly may think all is "peace and safety" without God, and then "sudden destruction cometh upon them")

"The world bases its peace on it resources, while God's peace depends on relationships. To be right with God means to enjoy the peace of God. The world depends on personal ability, but the Christian depends on spiritual adequacy in Christ. In the world, peace is something you hope for or work for; but to the Christian, peace is God's wonderful gift, received by faith. Unsaved people enjoy peace when there is an absence of trouble; Christians enjoy peace *in spite of trials* because of the presence of power, the Holy Spirit." (Wiersbe, p. 354).

You may not always have:

1. Domestic peace
   (Jesus came not to bring peace in all human relationships [due to man's rebellion against Him, this is rare], "but a sword…")

2. Societal peace
   (until the Prince of Peace returns; but you can have real inner peace despite all external circumstances)

VI. It is a Peace that Eliminates All Worry & Fear
("Let not your Heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid")

"Troubled" – disturbed or agitated

"Afraid" – cowardly or timid

Faith removes all fear!