

His Name is Prince of Peace

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Text: [Isaiah 9:1-7](#)

Introduction

We come now to the last sermon in our series “**The Name Above All Names.**” We have looked at the first three names Isaiah ascribed to our Lord, namely the names - Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, and the Everlasting Father.

This morning, consider with me the fourth and last name in our text, which is the “Prince of Peace”.

[Isaiah 9:6](#) For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. [7:22](#) Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

When we think of Christmas we often think of peace. It is one of the repeated phrases of the season.

[Luke 2:14](#) Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

What a wonderful announcement! Specially now in the world we live in. We all know, we live in a world filled with terror, war and violence. Since the beginning of recorded history, the world has been at peace less than 8% of the time!

In the past 3,550 years, only 286 years saw peace. During that time, more than 8,000 peace treaties have been made—and broken.

(Moody Bible Institute, Today In The Word, June 1988, p.33 date adjusted for 2008)

So every day we read or watch the news we wonder, Where is the peace announced by the angels to the shepherds? If the Messiah came to bring peace, why isn't there peace?

First of all, we need to understand that Jesus Christ did not come to bring **global** or **domestic peace**. He did not come to bring universal peace. That is not the primary and immediate consequence of His coming.

Listen to what our Lord said in ...

[Matthew 10:34](#) Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

Jesus knew that the kind of peace that He will bring about would be misunderstood. He said, He did not come to bring peace like many of us understand peace. He did not come to bring that kind of peace where everybody gets along at all cost, for He said, He came to bring a sword.

And seven-hundred years before Christ was born Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would be called the "Prince of Peace". This is one of the most familiar titles of Jesus Christ but it is also one of His most misunderstood and misapplied titles .

It is true that when Jesus was born, angels sang, [“On earth peace, good will toward men.”](#) If you read the announcement carefully, the message of angels is not “Peace on Earth!” But rather, “On Earth Peace!” You ask, what is the difference?

On earth, Peace. Christ, the Prince of Peace, was on earth. The angels were singing because at that time the peace of God in the person of Jesus Christ was on earth. It is true He came to bring peace, but not the kind of peace that some people think He meant to bring.

[John 14:27](#) Peace I leave with you, **my peace** I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

The peace that Jesus Christ gives is not like the peace that the world gives. The peace that the world gives is not real. It is temporary. It is imperfect. It is always unstable and uneasy. The peace that Jesus Christ brings is particular and permanent. It is His peace!

Let us look at this two basic peace that the Prince of Peace, the great Peacemaker came to give.

I - Peace with God

This is the true message of Christmas. This is why we celebrate the birth of Jesus, first and foremost, because He has brought us peace with God.

A man close to death was in the hospital. His minister came to see him and asked: *“Have you made your peace with God?”* The man responded, *“I didn’t know God and I had ever been enemies.”*

Many people in the world today feel exactly this way. They don’t think that they had ever quarreled with God. But the Bible is clear, that without Christ we are not at peace with God at all. In fact, the reality is without the Prince of Peace in our lives, we are enemies of God.

This is exactly what the Apostle Paul says in ...

[Ephesians 2:11](#) Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12:

That at that time **ye were without Christ**, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

Paul reminds his readers that at that time they were without Christ, they were excluded from citizenship in Israel, and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

I understand that many people do not want to be told that without Christ, they are enemies of God. The problem is they do not understand that their sins have created a great separation between the Creator and created. Those sins serve as a barrier, like a wall, signifying war.

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Each of us because of the sinfulness in our lives has a problem with God. Our sin separates us from God. And we were all born with a sin nature that separates us from God. And what this means is, we do not have peace with God. In fact, because of this sinfulness that is a part of who we are - enemies of God. This truth is difficult to swallow and so many people would not receive this truth. But this is the path to reconciliation with God starts, by humbling ourselves and acknowledging that we have been enemies of God, we have not been at peace with God....

Ephesians 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

Our sin separates us from God. So before we can have peace with God – something must be done about that sin. And guess what? Something has been done!

But now! Don't you love these words, "But now!" In Christ Jesus, those who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 4:14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

For He, Himself, is our peace! God the Father sent Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to remedy the problem. He sent the Prince of Peace give us peace with God, to reconcile us to God.

Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 10: For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

The Prince of Peace came as a baby and when He grew up, this Prince of Life suffered and died on the cross. He made it possible for that peace to be realized.

Hebrews 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Jesus sacrificed Himself for our sin problem. And because of that, if we placed our trust in Him and His sacrifice, we can now have peace with God.

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, **we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:**

God in His love reaches out to us in our sins in order to call us to this upward peace – this peace is peace with God. He loved us so much He sent His Son into this world to redeem us. Christmas reminds us that God sent His Son into this world to open the door of peace. **When a person accepts Christ, the conflict with God is over.** To put your faith in Christ, is to lay down the sword of sin and turn in faith to surrender to Him. Rather than subjecting you to humiliation and deprivation for your sins, God adopts you into His family. He gives you the peace you have been looking for everywhere else. He forgives your sins. He prepares a place for you in Heaven. Your guilt is gone. Your crimes are forgiven. You have peace with God!

II - Peace of God

Once we have peace with God, we can now experience peace within. A peace that is a by-product of having made peace with God. God wants us to know and experience His peace. But it is impossible to have the peace of God without peace with God. That is the reason we started with the peace with God. If you and I are to experience the peace of God, we must be reconciled to God; we must make peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Going back to what the Prince of Peace said in ...

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, **my peace** I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

The peace that Jesus Christ promises to give is a state of tranquility or quietness of spirit. A peace that passes all understanding. A peace that is beyond comprehension. A peace that **cannot be explained but can be enjoyed**. It is also a peace that **transcends circumstances**.

Billy Graham tells the story of a little bird. The sea was beating against the rocks in huge dashing waves, the lightning was flashing, the thunder was rolling, the wind was blowing; but the little bird was asleep in the crevice of the rock, its head serenely under its wing — it was sound asleep. That is peace — to be able to sleep in the storm!

In Christ, we are at peace in the midst of the confusions and storms of this life. The storm rages, but our hearts are at rest. When Christ comes in, He stands against the winds and the storms and cries out: “Peace, be still!” If Christ is here in our hearts, then we can be at peace. We find peace when we find Him. He is our peace!

Ephesians 4:14 **For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;**

Jesus Christ is our peace! If Christ is peace, then to know Christ is to enjoy and take comfort in His peace. The closer we draw to Him, the more of His peace we can enjoy (James 4:8).

The Bible promises that when we set our minds and actions upon the things of God, **then and only then** will the “peace of God which surpasses all comprehension guard our hearts and our minds through Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7).

Philippians 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7: And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. 4: Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

Some may say, "How can I be at peace when all of life is crashing down on me?"

This verse states that God will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfastly trusting in Him. The word "keep" literally means to guard, protect, hide and conceal. Understand that **the promise here is not to keep us from storms of life**, but to keep us in perfect peace in the midst of storms of life. Jesus did not keep the disciples from the storm, but **He was with them in the storm** and kept and protected them from harm by the storm.

In our lives as Christians, no one are kept from trouble, but we are hidden in the One who walks with us through trouble.

Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. 4: Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

What a wonderful verse! What a precious promise!

Closing Thoughts

The message of Christmas is a wonderful message. It is a hope-filled message. The only hope we have in this world of terror, fear and anxiety is first of all the be reconciled to God through our Lord Jesus Christ and then to keep our minds stayed on Him. Do you have that peace that Jesus promised? You cannot have peace unless you know the Prince of Peace. You cannot have peace unless you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. You cannot have peace if your dealing with Jesus Christ is only on Christmas Day or a "Sunday-morning-religion. You must have a vital living relationship with the Prince of Peace, if yo are to experience the peace with God and the peace of God.

Dwight L. Moody once said, *"A great many people are trying to make peace, but that has already been done. God has not left it for us to do; all we have to do is to enter into it."*

Have you entered into personal relationship and peace with Jesus Christ? Have you allowed Him to change your heart? This is the only hope of the world which longs for peace, the only hope for our communities, the only hope for our lives - to allow Prince of Peace to give them a new heart.

An old proverb says: *"If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the*

home, there will be order in the nation. And when there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.” But not unless the Prince of Peace reigns in the hearts!

AMEN!