

WHAT ABOUT PEACE?

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I once heard a popular Christian musician say that any time he made an album on the subject of peace it would sell well. That symbolizes our quest for inner peace.

Life in our modern world is often filled with stress, sorrow, grief, sickness, conflict, anxiety and difficulties that rob us of peace. Anxiety attacks are common and depression is now considered one of the major problems of our society. We fight wars to win peace, but one war is followed by another. Someone defined the postwar peace as “a time to reload.”

Some seek peace in quiet places, retreats, drugs, alcohol, aroma therapy, music, sex, relationships, hobbies, materialism, a multitude of counselors and even suicide.

To some degree, everyone must face stress and difficulty. We cannot totally escape the problems of this world.

But there is a way to gain inner strength and peace from God. Scripture tells us it begins with an eternal relationship with Christ.

The following passages of Scripture speak to this subject of peace through Christ. If you believe in Christ as your Savior you will find great comfort in these verses. Read them, study them, memorize them and meditate on the truth which is in them. They will bring peace of mind.

Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 26:3-4

“You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal.”

John 14:27

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

John 16:33

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Romans 5:1

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 2:14-18

“For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.” (NIV)

Philippians 4:6-8

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable -- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy -- think about such things.”

1 Peter 5:7-8

“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

Revelation 21:4

“And He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”

If you are uncertain about your relationship with Christ or if you would like to become a Christian but are not certain how... please read the following explanation. It is the first step toward real peace with God through Christ.

The first steps in having Real Peace with God through Christ

The Scripture tells us:

1. We must recognize we are enemies of God before we exercise faith in Christ. Our sin has alienated us from God even if we don't feel like we are at odds with God.

Colossians 1:21-23a, "And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach – if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard."

This condition of being enemies is also described as a spiritual deadness.

Ephesians 2:1-3, "And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest."

This has happened because we have broken God's Commandments and need forgiveness.

Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 6:23a, "For the wages of sin is death."

2. Realize that you can never gain entrance to heaven on personal merit (good works, keeping the commandments, baptism, church membership, etc.).

Ephesians 2:9, Salvation is "Not as a result of works, that no one should boast."

Titus 3:5a "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy."

3. Acknowledge you have offended God and ask His forgiveness in prayer. Rest your trust in Christ alone to be your Savior:

Acts 17:30b-31, "...Now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the Man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

1 Peter 3:18, "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit."

John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

If we can be of help to you, please contact us at the following address.



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