

Let the Peace of God Sink In!

Sunday Morning, December 8, 2013

Thesis:

Let the Peace of God Sink Into Our Lives,
No Matter What the Circumstance!

Introduction:

River Rafting Experience:

Picture from June 23, 2005 on a trip with youth group, on our anniversary, taken after we had flipped our raft in Class 4 waters, which were meant for only whitewater experienced people, which we were not. We were still upset as you can see by the picture and were facing more danger with a wild whirlpool a few feet ahead.

I. Jesus Came to Give Us Peace!

(Luke 2: 8 – 15)

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

A. God Gives Peace

(Psalm 29:11)

The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.

B. We Need to Seek Peace

(Psalm 34:14)

Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

C. There is a Future for People of Peace

(Psalm 37:37)

Consider the blameless, observe the upright; there is a future for the man of peace.

II. A Christian Can Maintain A Life of Peace If...

A. We Keep Our Mind on Him!

(Isaiah 26:3)

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.

B. We Give Him Our Burdens

(Matthew 11: 28 – 30)

28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

29 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.

30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

C. We Remember We Are Overcomers!

(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."

T.S. Remember, God is Not A God of Disorder, But of Peace!

III. Therefore, As Imitators of Christ, Live Lives of Peace and Order.

(Romans 8:29)

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

(I Corinthians 14:33)

For God is not a God of disorder but of peace. As in all the congregations of the saints,

How Do We Live Peacefully?

A. If Possible, Be At Peace With All Men

(Romans 12:18)

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

(Hebrews 12:14)

Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

B. Be Forgiving To Promote Peace

(Colossians 3:13)

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

(Ephesians 4:32)

Be kind & compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

(Matthew 6: 14 – 15)

14 For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

C. Bring Peace - Love As God Loves

(John 13: 34 – 35)

34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Conclusion:

God Wants Us To Live Our Lives in Peace.

Let God's Peace Sink Into Our Lives.