



Part 3: Peace Colossians 3:12-17 May 17, 2020

As Children of God we are meant have the peace of Christ ruling our hearts. God is working to cultivate the fruit of peace in our lives in three important ways...

1) Peace that looks UP - Peace with _____

Through Jesus Christ, we who were once enemies of God in our sin are now reconciled to God. The peace of God begins with God's making peace between Himself and humanity. Peace is the gift that God gives when we receive Jesus as our Savior.

See Romans 5:1,2 ; Colossians 1:19-22

2) Peace that looks IN - Peace with _____

We can try many things to find inner peace, but the only way to be truly at peace with yourself is to focus on God see yourself through His eyes - the gracious love he has for you and the good path of life he has set before you.

See Isaiah 26:3,4 ; Romans 8:14-16 ; Ephesians 2:10

3) Peace that looks OUT - Peace with _____

It is only when we have peace with God and ourselves that we can hope to have real peace with others. As an unbelieving world looks for things like, hope, love, forgiveness, joy, peace - they should be able to look at us as children of God and see it in action.

See James 4:1 ; Psalm 34:14 ; Matthew 5:9 ; Romans 12:16-19

The Prayer of Francis of Assisi

Lord make me an instrument of your peace;
 Where there is hatred let me sow love.
 Where there is injury, pardon.
 Where there is doubt, faith.
 Where there is despair, hope.
 Where there is darkness, light.
 And where there is sadness, joy.
 O divine master grant that I may not so much seek;
 To be consoled as to console;
 To be understood as to understand;
 To be loved as to love
 For it is in giving that we receive-
 And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned.
 And it's in dying that we are born to eternal life.
 Amen.

:: LIFE APPLICATION

- 1) Have you been taking part in "Pray 4:06" over the last month? If so, what difference has it made for you?
- 2) As you consider peace with God, what does it mean that you were once an enemy of God in your sin and are now reconciled through Jesus' blood?
- 3) As you consider peace within yourself, how would you describe your inner dialogue right now (Kind, abusive, truthful, deluded)? God loves you - would you say that you love yourself?
- 4) What is your current level of peace with others in your life? What has helped you to be at peace or caused you to be at odds with them? As you consider the call in Romans 12 to live peaceably (as far as it is possible) with all, is there someone you are being called to make peace with today? Is there someone you could actively appreciate today?