

What The World Needs Is God's Peace

"Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests." (Luke 2:14) The angels proclaimed these words when Jesus Christ the Son of God was born. Zechariah prophesied in Chapter 9, verse 10 that He (Jesus) will proclaim peace to the nations. God promises in John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you—."

We must, however, acknowledge that we live in a world where there are two forces at work, light and darkness. Light represents righteousness, and darkness represents evil.

Those who choose to walk in darkness DO NOT receive God's peace, but those who choose light (God) have ready access to His peace. Hence, we see clearly, that God gives His creation two choices: if we reject Him, we have no peace, but if we accept Him, we can have the peace He has already promised us.

This explains why we see such a cultural and spiritual divide between believers and non-believers throughout the world.

Non-believers over the centuries have tried to generate peace with their god through warring against one another. The result was and is death and destruction without any lasting peace. The only lasting peace for the world we live in, is the peace that God offers everyone who accepts His Son, Jesus Christ.

Then if Jesus is the source of our peace, why are there so many believers that have been promised peace, not experiencing it in their lives?

One of the reasons for this, is that in this world there are so many things around us to consume our time and energies which can distract us from what should be our primary focus on God, the author of our peace.

Philippians 4:6 - Tells us, "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." The Word also exhorts us in John 14:1 - Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in Me.

In Oswald Chambers Devotional book, "My Utmost for His Highest" we read, "With regard to the problem that is pressing on you right now, are you 'Looking unto Jesus' and receiving peace from Him? If so, He will be a gracious blessing of peace exhibited in and through you. BUT, if you only try to worry your way out of the problem, you destroy His effectiveness in you, and you deserve what you get. We become troubled because we have not been taking Him into account. When a person confers with Jesus Christ, the confusion stops because there is no confusion in Him, and when you are faced with difficulty, bereavement, and sorrow, listen to Him say, 'Let not your heart be troubled—' John 14:27."

You and I have hourly and daily choices to make. If we choose God, we will walk in His peace. If we focus on our daily distractions and challenges, we will lose our peace every time.

I pray that when you and I face the daily challenges of this world that would try to draw us away from God's peace, we will choose His peace and rest that only comes from trusting in Him, the one and only living God.