



MÁS PEACE

December 17, 2023 Message Notes

TEXT: Colossians 1:15-20

We live in a world at war –
in nations, homes, families, hearts.

We need peace this Christmas.

More peace.

Más peace.



NOTES

“The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:6

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5:9

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

Romans 12:18

Bible peace isn't simply the absence of conflict; it's the presence of

Wholeness

Righteousness

Justice

Truth

Love

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

John 14:27



The World promises peace through:

Education

Affluence

Power

Saul (before he was Paul) used his power to restore the peace in Israel by eliminating the blasphemers, the Jesus heresy.

“...God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him (Christ).” Colossians 1:19

Paul later wrote one of the clearest statements of the divine nature of Jesus Christ in all of the Bible – from prison for being a gospel preacher.

What happened to cause him to make such a dramatic about-face turn in his life?

A personal encounter with the resurrected Christ

“Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked. ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.’” Acts 9:4-5



God called Paul to spread the good news that God had come in Christ to redeem the world.

Jesus Christ is...

- Image of the invisible God
- Firstborn over all creation (positional authority)
- Agent of the creation of all things
- Primacy before all things
- Firstborn from the dead (with more to follow)
- Supremacy over all things
- Housing all the fullness of God in a body
- Agent of reconciliation

“Once you were alienated from God, enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.” Colossians 1:21

**God does the work, we experience the beauty.
He enters the chaos, we receive the wholeness.**

“...Making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”
Colossians 1:20

What kind of peace does Christ bring?

- More than the world does, more than the world can.



- Peace that brings wholeness – righteousness, justice, truth and love.

Why did Jesus, the Righteous, have to give his life for us, the unrighteous?

That justice might be done for human sin.

When Infinite Holiness is violated by a Finite Sinful, how is justice done?

How can an infinite debt ever be paid?

Jesus, born in a manger to die on a cross so the penalty of sin could be paid in full.

An infinite penalty paid by the Infinite God through the finite body of his incarnate Son – to make peace.

“...We remain in thrall to its primal mystique.”

The History of Blood, *New Yorker magazine*,
January 2019

“The life of the flesh is in the blood” Leviticus 17:11



“...My colleagues and I are no closer to unravelling the oldest, most profound mystery of blood. In the verse from Leviticus, the word *nefesh*, translated as ‘life’ also means soul.”

Jerome Groopman, M.D. Harvard Medical School

“...It is the blood that makes atonement for one’s life.”

Leviticus 17:11

That is the mystery story of how God makes peace. God was made in human likeness so he could give his blood on the cross for you in love - to make peace so you can have peace with God.

“My peace I give you, I do not give you as the world gives.” John 14:27

Receive the gift of God’s peace in Jesus

Trust Christ to be your Savior and Life-changer

Be an instrument of God’s peace to others

- Share your story
- Invite someone to Christ Journey



It could mean someone gets just what they need, just what they've been praying for and has their **best Christmas ever!**

