

PEACE

December 19, 2021

We lack peace because we have faulty concepts of what God's peace really is.

*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 14:27*

*"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. **Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.** For I have come to turn " 'a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law-- a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'
Matthew 10:32-36*

*As you enter the home, give it your greeting. If the home is deserving, let your **peace** rest on it; if it is not, let your **peace** return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet. Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.
Matthew 10:12-15*

- 1. Jesus does not give peace as the world gives peace.**
- 2. His peace is not an outward absence of stressful circumstances.**
- 3. His peace is only for those who listen to Him and obey.**

There is no peace apart from His presence because He is Peace.

- 1. Sin**

2. Lack of Surrender or a Failure to Trust God's Sovereignty

- Do I really believe that God is good and loves me and wants what's best for me and the people involved?
- Do I really want God to be glorified in this or do I just want the credit or praise or my will to be done?
- Do I really believe that prayer makes a difference to God? Do I really believe that God answers my prayer?

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you.

James 4:7-8

3. Lack of Faith - A Failure to Persevere

*"Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. 23 **Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.**"*

Luke 7:22-23

*"Blessed is he who does not **take offense at Me.**"*

Luke 7:23

YOU ARE WITH ME