

Peace in Troubled Times
(Phil. 4)

Introduction

The God of peace and the peace of God

But I don't feel very peaceful, so I feel a great disconnect.

Fresh ministry, fresh life, fresh fire. How? Surprising answer in this text, peace.

Peace and joy connected, peace and joy and happiness, no more sorrow....

The connection between peace and prayer

5. Peace breaker, Proverbs

4. Peace dweller, but not make peace, only lives where there is peace

3. Peace lover,

2. Peace keeper, Eph. 4:1-3

1. Peace maker, Matt 5

What is peace?

Peace of mind, peace of heart; peace of relationships, peace of....

Peace is not the absence of pain

Peace is like musical harmony—not everyone the same, not all on the same page

True peace, true joy—not counterfeit

Gospel peace, gospel joy. There is a secular peace and a secular joy; this is not our subject today

Peace is elusive. (think about elusive things—tending to elude: tending to evade grasp or pursuit: hard to comprehend or define: hard to isolate or identify

Why is peace so elusive?

Because it is not our focus?

Things that trouble the peace....

Peace between brothers

Selfishness, competition

Social boundaries exist

disagreements come,

But when we agree in the Lord, peace is possible.

Peace in the midst of uncertainty, doubt

The fleeting nature of life, temporal world

Peace in the midst of turmoil

Lives are lived in a troubled world

Physical needs, interrupt lives,

Need, hunger, etc.

Things that bring peace

The presence of the Lord—v. 5, 9

Prayer and petition

Guarded hearts and minds

What we think--focus/thinking on higher things.

Conclusion

One peace that really matters is peace with God

The peace of God is equally important. The tenor of our lives is determined by the presence of the peace of God in our lives. Live at peace. Live at peace with one another.