

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT OF PEACE

A Savior Is Born – Part 4

Rev. Steve Norman

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*“A child has been born for us and God has given us a Son...
He will be called...the Prince of PEACE!” Isaiah 9:6*

*Jesus: “I am giving you THE GIFT OF PEACE, the kind of
peace that only I can give. It isn’t like the peace that this world
gives.” John 14:27*

3 KINDS OF PEACE JESUS OFFERS YOU

1. PEACE WITH GOD

*“God sent Christ to make peace between himself and us.”
2 Corinthians 5:18*

*“Since we are made right with God by faith in Christ, we have
PEACE WITH GOD because of what Jesus has done for us.”
Romans 5:1*

*“Even though we were his enemies, God made peace with us,
because his Son died for our sins. Now that we’re at peace with
God, we will be saved for eternity by his Son’s life.” Rom. 5:10*

2. PEACE WITHIN ME

“Let the PEACE OF GOD rule IN your heart...” Colossians 3:15

3. PEACE WITH OTHERS

*“Christ brought us all together through his death on the Cross.
The Cross gets us to embrace each other, and end the hostility
between different groups.” Ephesians 2:16*

*“In Christ’s family there is no division between Jew and Gentile,
slave or free, or even male and female. In Christ we’re all
equal and the same. We’re all in a common relationship with
Jesus.” Galatians 3:28*

3 ESSENTIALS TO ENJOYING GOD’S PEACE

1. I MUST EXPERIENCE A MOMENT OF CLARITY

*“I pray that your heart will be flooded with light so that you can
see something of the future that God has called you to share...”
Ephesians 1:18*

*“Make sure that the light you think you have is not really
darkness.” Luke 11:35*

2. I MUST EXPRESS AN ATTITUDE OF HUMILITY

*“God opposes the prideful but gives grace to the humble.”
James 4:6*

*“Lord, grant us PEACE, for all we have, and all we are, has
come from you!” Isaiah 26:12*

*“The Lord is close to those whose hearts are breaking; he
rescues those who are humbly sorry for their sins.” Ps. 34:18*

*“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.
Tell God what you need, and thank him. If you do this, you will
experience God’s peace, which is far greater than the human
mind can understand. God’s peace will guard your heart and
mind as you live in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7*

3. I MUST EXPECT JESUS TO HELP ME

*Jesus: “Come to ME, all of you who are tired and worn out from
carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest! Yoke up with me
and earn from me, for I am gentle and humble, and you’ll find
peace and rest for your soul.” Matthew 11:28-29*

- COME TO JESUS
- CONNECT WITH JESUS
- LET JESUS CHANGE ME

*“You, Lord give true peace to those who depend on you,
because they trust you.” Isaiah 26:3*

MEMORY VERSE:

*“A child has been born for us and God has given us a Son...
He will be called...the Prince of PEACE!” Isaiah 9:6*

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Dear God, You know the anxiety in my life. You know about the fears I will face in the future but don't even know about yet. Jesus Christ, you say you are the Prince of Peace and you came to give the gift of peace that only you can give. I need that peace and I want that peace, so I want to take these steps.

First, I pray that you will flood my heart with light so that I can see things as they really are. Help me, God, to see you as you really are and not as I have imagined you to be. Help me to see myself as I really am not as I pretend to be. Help me to see other people the way they really are. Help me to see my problems as they actually are not as I have imagined them to be. I want to make sure that the light that I think I have is really not darkness in disguise.

I need a moment of clarity, so today, I'm expressing an attitude of humility. God, I recognize all I have and all I am has come from you. You have promised to be close to those whose hearts are breaking. And you've promised to rescue those who are humbly sorry for their sins. God, would you do that for me? Would you be close to me? Would you rescue me? Would you teach me how to stop worrying and start praying so that I can experience the peace of you, God, that passes all understanding?

Jesus, you have said to come to you if I am tired and worn out, to yoke up with you, to learn from you, so I do this tonight. I say, Jesus Christ, as much as I know how, I come to you. I want to connect with you. I want a relationship. I want a friendship with you. I want to learn to love you and know you and get to know you better every day. I give you permission to make changes in me that I have always wanted and that you have wanted to make.

Lord, you have promised to give true peace to those who depend on you and trust you. So today, I'm saying I want to trust you with my life for the rest of my life. I want you to be the general manager of my life. I want you to be in charge, and I want to be connected. I want to be yoked up to you. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. Help me to understand that more, and help me to follow you in humility and in gentleness. I humbly pray this in your name, Jesus, Amen.