

and was resurrected, he suddenly appeared before the disciples who were hiding in fear and said. “. . . Peace be unto you” (John 20:19b). “And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you” (John 20:20-21).

Paul explained that Jesus is the one who has provided peace through his life, death, and resurrection. “But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father” (Ephesians 2:13-18).

Paul encouraged the Believers to receive the peace that Jesus provides. “Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all” (II Thessalonians 3:16).

When we live in the kingdom of God

we should find peace. “For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost” (Romans 14:17).

Paul greeted the church of Corinth with an expression of peace to it. “Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ” (I Corinthians 1:3).

Peter also declared peace in his letter to his readers. “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord” (II Peter 1:2).

AMEN

1. God is the God of peace.
2. God desires to give to peace to His children.
3. God has provided the ultimate peace through Jesus, our peace maker.
4. We can find peace in the midst of our storms that we face as we trust in the Word and in Jesus.
5. We are also to share God’s peace with others.

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# Peace “Shalom”

שלום



In September 2022, my wife and I took a trip to Colorado. A primary attraction of our trip was to go one day to Maroon Bells. We purchased our permit to drive from Aspen to Maroon Bells in Colorado some weeks in advance our trip. The only time available was after 5:00 pm. one day. When we arrived there, there were heavy clouds moving in and it had begun to lightly rain. As we begin to walk down the path to the lake it began to rain heavier and my wife turned back on the trail and walked to the car.

I took several rain shots and then there came a heavy rain with sleet. The mountain view suddenly was covered completely with rain clouds. I rushed back to the car, not knowing what to do.

The rain was heavy and it would have been even difficult to drive down the narrow curvy mountain road in heavy rain. Remember it was now very late in the afternoon and getting darker, especially with the cloud cover and heavy rain. Again, this was meant to be the primary scenic point of our entire trip. There was a strong temptation to be upset. We prayed and asked God whether or not we should give up and leave or stay for a while longer. Although we did not fully know what was to happen, we felt a **peace** to stay. We stayed for about an hour or more and suddenly, the rain began to stop and the clouds begin to clear. It was a perfect time to take photos.

The Hebrew word for peace is “shalome” שָׁלוֹם which means such things as prosperity, well being, rest, good health, and safety. It may also be used when expressing greetings and goodbyes.

One of the hyphenated names of God is that of Jehovah-shalom. Again, shalom means peace. “Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovah-shalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites” (Judges 6:24).

God told Moses to speak the following over the children of Israel. “The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give

thee peace” (Numbers 6:24-26). It is a good picture of what God desires for us today.

God gives peaceful sleep to His children. “I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety” (Psalms 4:8).

One of the blessings of God is to give to his people peace. “The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace” (Psalms 29:11).

God speaks peace over His people. “I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly. Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land. Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. (Psalms 85:8-10).

Again, David declared the peace of God upon Israel. “As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the LORD shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: but peace shall be upon Israel” (Psalms 125:5).

We can find peace as we love and obey God’s law. “Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them” (Psalms 119:165).

“My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and

peace, shall they add to thee” (Proverbs 3:1-2).

We can find peace when we fix our mind upon the Lord. “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee” (Isaiah 26:3).

Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would be the Prince of Peace. “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).

The primary New Testament Greek word used for peace is “iranay” εἰρήνη. It means to receive prosperity, unity, wholeness, and rest.

Here it is a picture of wholeness. “And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague” (Mark 5:34).

Jesus spoke about leaving us with his peace. “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (John 14:27).

Jesus also told his disciples, “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

After Jesus had been crucified, buried