

# True Peace

Many people today are remembering the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks in America 21 years ago. Today we are talking about true peace.

## Introduction

We live in a world full of war, rumors of war, and oppression. Our world desperately needs true peace. Jesus warned us of that in Matthew 24:6 which says:

Matthew 24:6

**(6) You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.**

We also face oppression against people groups based on nationality, skin color, economic status, gender, religion, and more. Violence is waged against people day in and day out because of these differences in us.

We must understand and believe that Jesus Christ is our true peace as we face the turmoil and violence of the world today.

## Conflict Everywhere

Where there are people, there is conflict. No two people are made the same. They don't think the same, act the same or speak the same. There is an even greater chance of conflict when you have a large group of people. The most compatible people can come together and when times get difficult or stressful and strain is put on the relationship conflict will result.

As human beings, our desire is peace. Most people do not desire to have confrontations, quarrels, or even wars. However, peace is not always achievable when you have little or no power over the cause of the conflict.

Jesus can bring peace amid any storm, rage, conflict, or war. Only Jesus has the power to fill our hearts with calm and stillness and bring us true peace.

Let's read Zechariah 6:12-13.

Zechariah 6:12-13

(12) Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Here is the man whose name is the Branch, and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the LORD. (13) It is he who will build the temple of the LORD, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And he will be a priest on his throne. And there will be harmony between the two.'

Jesus Christ is able to bring peace between governments and religion. He is on the throne in Heaven and rules with authority. Jesus is clothed in majesty and establishes his throne forever. He is the Branch who reaches out to all generations and administers peace.



## Christ Is Our True Peace

There are many things in this world that we can choose to have lordship over us. Many things are fighting for our time. When something or someone has lordship over you, it is the top priority in your life. Your efforts and time are devoted to that one thing above everything else.

For some people, the highest priority in their life is work, and for others, it is their family. Others will make recreation or money their highest priority, or lord in their life. There are even people who make world peace lord in their life. They desire it more than anything else.

True peace cannot be achieved by man without Jesus Christ. Peace is a result of making Jesus Christ our Lord and following him.

Jesus wants to be the Lord of your life. He reigns in power and majesty and can lead you to still waters bringing you true peace in your heart.

Isaiah 9:2-7 says:

Isaiah 9:2-7

(2) The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. (3) You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. (4) For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. (5) Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. (6) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (7) Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

The Messiah was given as a gift to us in the form of a baby to rule the nations and to rule our hearts. Only Christ can bring true peace to your heart. His kingdom is established forever upholding righteousness and ruling with justice.

This is the Christ who I want to rule my heart. This is the Christ who I choose to trust.

We can choose to make a person our lord. We can put our trust, strength, and everything we have into loving and trusting a spouse or a close friend. But people will fail us. They cannot save us or give us true peace, only Jesus Christ can.

We may choose to make our job, a hobby, or volunteer work the lord of our life. None of these things can save your soul, heal your body, or bring you true inner peace. Only making Jesus Christ the Lord of your life can.

## Good News of True Peace

Acts 10:36 says:



Acts 10:36

(36) You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

This message has been preached for thousands of years. Jesus Christ will come to rule as the Prince of Peace. The conflict that lies with this message is that it takes surrender. We must give up our own plans for peace and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us in the peace that can only be found in Jesus.

When we decide to surrender, we admit that we cannot go through life alone, we need help. That means taking ourselves out of the equation. That means instead of living for ourselves, we choose to live for God.

The picture I like to think of when I think of surrender is the young child who sees their father and runs up and lifts their arms in the air asking him to pick them up. This child wants to be held by their Daddy. They can't jump into his arms alone; they need Daddy to reach down and pick them up and hold them. His strong arms are their safe place. He can carry them and hold them.

This is complete surrender. When we completely surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, we are lifting our arms up to him and saying "Lord, carry me. I cannot make it through life on my own. I need you.". We cannot make it happen on our own. True peace can only be achieved through us clothing ourselves with Jesus Christ.

By taking on Jesus as our Lord and Savior we can then sincerely extend grace, mercy, forgiveness, and love to others. These are formed out of the true peace that is in our hearts once Jesus is our priority and prime focus.

## Conclusion

Have you surrendered your life to Jesus? You may have asked him to forgive you and save you, but have you made him Lord of your life? Is Jesus your primary priority? Do you have true peace in your heart?

This Prince of Peace, true peace, desires your whole heart, not just part of it. His ways are not your ways. His ways are better than your ways. Trust him to lead you, even when you are not sure how things are going to work out. God has a plan, and it is our job to trust him and go along with the plan.

If you have not made Jesus your Lord, we encourage you to say a prayer of surrender to his Lordship. We would also love to know so leave a comment below or send us a message.

