

Becky Combee Ministries, Inc.



Peace on Earth

Luke 2:10-14 - ¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, ¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

One of the wonders of the Christmas story is recorded by Luke in the announcement of the angel to the shepherds. I still remember how these words were sung in a Christmas musical in decades past. Amazing, isn't it, how God etches His Word on our hearts through a song? With one refrain, His glorious message resounds its music in our spirits. When I think of these words, I can envision the shepherds and their surprise at God's great announcement. I see it in my heart as if I had been there. After this good news was delivered, the sky filled with a



multitude of angels praising God. I don't know if they were singing or not. The scripture doesn't say. But for me it's a magnificent song that echoes through the ages.

There are two prominent emphases in the angels' song of praise. The first is "Glory to God in the highest."¹ Great glory goes to God because a Saviour has been born in Bethlehem. He is Christ the Lord! Through His death and resurrection, there is redemption for all nations. There is salvation for the world. And here is the most magnificent news – it is free! In Romans 3:24, the Apostle Paul confirms this truth. By the Holy Spirit he says we are "justified [made righteous] **freely** by [God's] grace." Later in Romans, he repeats this fact when he asks, "shall he [God] not with him [Jesus] **freely** give us all things?"²

One of the "things" God freely provides for us is peace. This is the second declaration of the angels to the shepherds, "on earth peace."³ Our God is Jehovah Shalom, the God of Peace. Gideon learned this when the angel of the Lord asked him to lead Israel to victory over the Midianites. Gideon's response to God's commission was "I am the least in my father's house."⁴ In other words, "You've picked the wrong person. I'm not the one to lead the people." But here is an interesting fact. Gideon didn't realize he was talking to an angel. When he learned he had seen an angel, he became very, very frightened. But the Lord reassured him with these wonderful words, "Peace be unto thee; fear not."⁵ At that place, the place where God had spoken to him, Gideon built an altar and named it Jehovah Shalom.⁶

Our God, the God of Peace, wanted Gideon to know His peace, and He wants us to have His peace too. This peace is a supernatural peace secured for us through the great plan of redemption, through the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. The scripture overwhelms us with this truth. The Apostle Paul wrote of it to the church of Rome. He declared, "Therefore being justified by faith, **we have peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."⁷ He writes of it again in Colossians 1:20, "And, **having made peace** through the blood of his cross." Then to the church of Ephesus he states, "For **He is our peace**, who hath made both one."⁸ What a powerful revelation this is! Truly, there is peace for everyone who receives the work of the cross!

This supernatural peace given to us through the death of our Lord Jesus Christ does not depend upon circumstances. It is unlike natural, human peace. Natural, human peace requires plenty of money, a



lovely home, obedient children, quiet neighbors, a fine car, and even a "good hair day". And it differs from worldly peace which says, "Everything is great, really great. Life is good." This supernatural peace needs only one thing – trust in God! The prophet Isaiah proves this to us when he records, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."⁹ In other words, we can have perfect peace through faith in God. According to the Apostle Paul, this perfect peace is "so great we cannot understand it."¹⁰

Yes, God's supernatural peace is beyond comprehension. It is a perfect peace that transcends worry and guards the mind. And it is for you! The angels declared it! The blood of Jesus secured it! The Word of God promised it! The people of God experienced it! "Fix your thoughts" on God.¹¹ Don't worry about anything.¹² God is working because you trust Him. He is your peace.

¹ Luke 2:14

² Romans 8:34

³ Luke 2:14

⁴ Judges 6:15

⁵ Judges 6:23

⁶ Judges 6:24

⁷ Romans 5:1

⁸ Ephesians 2:14

⁹ Isaiah 26:3

¹⁰ Philippians 4:7 NCV

¹¹ Philippians 4:8 NLV

¹² Philippians 4:6 NLV