

2024 Christmas Series Part 4 “His Name Shall Be Called” Prince of Peace - Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas!

A) Looking forward to Christmas Eve Services

B) I love Christmas time – Cards, Carols, Classic movies

Sometimes this season means Pressure:

A) Busy! - Season of Purchases / Packages / Parties- all of which amounts to great Pressure- Tired!!!

B) Here is a truth that the Lord reminds me of often – during this time of the year.

C) Christmas is something you celebrate for Pleasure – because the Pressure was on HIS Son!

D) It is not about Packages & Presents / it is about a Person / it is about How He took the Pressure – for our Pleasure!

That is such an important principle to remember – For another person’s pleasure – there had to be one person’s Pressure

A) That Principle can apply to all points in life

B) You ladies are looking forward to Christmas Dinner: Joy seeing everyone around the table – Pleasure seeing them enjoy the meal

C) But Christmas dinner also means Christmas COOKING and Baking – lots of Prep = pressure

D) Kids are looking forward to Christmas Presents:
1) But that also means Christmas Purchases – long lines – fighting traffic

E) Thankful for Amazon at Christmas time!

Today we are concluding our Christmas Series – And His name shall be CALLED.

A) TEXT – Isaiah 9:6 – Where we are given 4 names of the Baby that was born in Bethlehem

B) That very first Christmas Morning!

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder.

And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

700 years before the Birth of Jesus –

A) The Prophet Isaiah made a Birth announcement about the Birth of the Messiah

B) A Savior who was coming into the World –

C) A Baby who would be different from any other Baby –

1) So Unique He needed four names to describe him and his mission.

Seen that His Name would be called –

A) **Wonderful Counselor** – Describing his Priestly Ministry.

B) **Mighty God** Describing the Power of his Ministry

C) **Everlasting Father** – Describing the parental Care of his Ministry

D) And **Prince of Peace** – Describing How He alone would solve the greatest problem in all of Humanity

1) The Need for Peace

PEACE IS A RARE QUALITY-

A) I meet people who are active. And I meet people who are busy.

B) And I meet people who are ambitious and have great dreams.

C) But I also meet people who are stressed out . And I meet people who are tired.

D) I rarely meet people who are totally at peace.

And yet it is one of the reasons we celebrate Christmas.

A) **Jesus came to give us peace.**

- Peace with God
- Peace within
- Peace with others

Recall at the very first Christmas when the angels appeared to the shepherds they said, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will toward men.”

A) Jesus came to establish Peace

B)When Jesus grew up to be a man and started his earthly ministry – he said this about himself.

³³ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. John 16:33

C)He came to bring a peace to the hearts of men!

D)He described it this way in John 14:27 - ²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

The peace that the world gives is temporary. It is fleeting- It's phony and it's fragile. It doesn't last.

A)The peace that Jesus gives last.

B)Notice he says "I am giving you the gift of peace, it is the kind of peace that only I can give!"

C)You can't buy it – you can't learn it in a class or book –

1)you can only experience it in a relationship with Jesus.

Today as we finish up our Christmas series- and consider this final name and Title – Prince of Peace.

A)I want us to consider what this peace is really all about.

B)What kind of peace does Jesus give us?

1)Then I want us to look at how you get it. How we can walk in this Peace – YEAR ROUND.

There are three different kinds of peace in the Bible.

A)There are 790 verses in the Bible that speak of Peace! –

B)We are going to consider every one of those today.
☺ I'm just kidding you!

C)I'm going to summarize what 790 verses in the Bible say about peace.

D)When you categorize them they all come down to three categories

- There is Spiritual peace
- There is Emotional peace
- There is Relational peace

1st Spiritual peace = Peace with God.

A)Did you know that the Bible declares that all of us were Enemies of God.

B)The Bible declares this about every single human being – that we were enemies of God. Romans 5:10

C)We don't like to think about it that way. We might think – I believe in God

1)God and I have always been on good terms

D)But the Bible says – that when Adam and Eve rebelled against God in the Garden

1)All of Humanity was infected with what we might call the SIN GENE.

It is inbred in us – this propensity to want to do it our own way.

A)Anytime I go my own way, this is what I am saying "I think I know better than God.

B)I know what God says to do but I'm not going to do that.

1)I'm going to make up my own rules and guidelines

C)Essentially in those moments I am saying- I'm going to be the Lord of my own life.

D)I'm going to be the master of my own life.

1) I'm not going to do what the Bible says to do. I'm going to do what I want to do."

When I try to pretend I'm God, WHEN I disobey God.

A)When I ignore what God says to do, that's an act of rebellion. It's an act of revolt.

B)It puts me in conflict with God and the Bible says there's no peace there.

1)I get disconnected.

C)We have all done it – we have all walked in that path.

But God didn't want us to live disconnected from him.

A)He Created us to be connected to him- live in relationship with him

B)So when we were enemies God did something to bring Peace between us and him.

C) So here's what the Bible says God did—
Romans 5:10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

D) He sent his son to die on the cross – pay our debt – to die in our place

1) To break down the wall that separated us.

E) We experience that peace – by putting our faith in what Jesus did for us.

Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. Romans 5:1 NLT

Notice that Phrase “done for us.” We have peace with God because of what Jesus has done for us.

A) Peace with God doesn't come from what you do.

B) Peace with God comes from what Jesus Christ did on the cross.

1) It's not what you do.

C) You can't be a nice person to get peace with God.

D) You get peace with God through what Jesus Christ did for you.

1) That's what Christmas is all about.

A lot of religions, have what's called a peace offering.

A) Going back to the Greeks and the Romans and a lot of other native American religions,

B) They would offer peace offerings to their god.

C) The Bible says you don't need to do that.

1) You don't need to make a peace offering to God because God already did it.

D) He offered himself. - God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself! 2 Cor 5:19

E) So you don't have to offer any peace offering to God – you just accept what Jesus did.

Remember when the wise men came to see the baby Jesus in Bethlehem, - Brought gifts

A) It says they brought gold, frankincense and myrrh.

B) (One little boy wrote gold, Frankincense and Myrrh!)

Gold, frankincense and myrrh are odd gifts for a baby right?

A) Not exactly the Fisher-Price toys you'd give a baby.

B) Why would you give a baby myrrh?

C) Myrrh was an embalming spice that you would use that in Burial - represents death. Burial.

1) Weird gift for a baby.

D) But this baby came to die. He came to die for our sins.

1) This Baby came to die to Reconcile men/women back to God!

E) He came to make a way for lost and sinful man to be made right with God – peace with God

1) So the first kind of peace is Spiritual peace = peace with God.

The second kind of peace is Emotional Peace = Peace within.

A) The Bible refers to it as the Peace OF GOD

B) When I have peace with God then I can experience the peace of God inside me.

C) The word for “peace” in the Bible in the Hebrew is the word shalom.

D) Shalom means more than just ending of hostilities. It means wellbeing. It means happiness.

E) It speaks of a harmony. It speaks of a serenity

You know when I said there are over 790 verses about peace of God in the Bible.

A) You could describe it this way: there is a peace from GOD for every one of your problems.

B) Whatever problem you have/ God has a corresponding peace.

C) For those with a broken heart, he gives us comforting peace.

For those with a confused heart, he gives us guiding peace.

A)For those when we have a shamed heart, he gives us forgiving peace.

B)When we have a worried heart, he gives us confident peace. –

1)A Peace that surpassing understanding

C)We CRAVE and seek for understanding – Ok I understand what is going on – Peace.

D)See there is a light at the end of that tunnel and it is not a TRAIN that is going to run me over.

E)I have Peace – I can make a game plan

But God says: I have a peace for you – that surpasses understanding. –

A)A peace I can give to you – in those times when you are prone to worry and stress out

Philippians 4:6-7 – ⁶Don't worry about anything, That is the hardest command to keep in the Bible.

B)Not the one that says, don't murder, don't cheat, don't commit adultery, don't steal. No, no, no.

1)The hardest command in the Bible is that one right there. Don't worry about anything.

C)We break that so often – some of us every day.

But Worry is assuming responsibility God never meant for you to have.

A)And worry is the opposite of peace.

⁶Don't worry about anything but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

B)He says, "Don't worry about anything instead, pray about everything."

C)See He gives you an alternative. He says you can pray or you can panic. That's your alternative.

1)Pray or panic.

D)You can worship or you can worry. You can have faith or you can have fear. It's your choice.

E)But God's not going to force you to pray, to worship, to have faith.

1)But here is his promise when You Pray instead of panic worship instead of worry – faith... fear

⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

This peace that surpasses understanding – guards your heart – sets a protection over your heart.

A)We only experience this when we choose to pray instead of panic

B)ON GOING EXERCISE: pray in the morning – peace – Panicking again by noon – PRAY AGAIN

C)Do it again later in the afternoon – Cast all your Cares upon him – because he cares for you –

1)Keep Casting - Know this – it is never too much for God – Friday – Phone call – too much – Not God

The Peace of God means that God has a peace for every problem. - Whatever problem.

A)You've got a financial problem? There's a financial peace promise in Scripture.

B)He will supply all your needs

C)You've got a physical problem? There's a physical peace promise in Scripture.

D)I don't have time to go into all these different kinds

1)but there's literally hundreds of kinds of peace that God says I offer to you.

So it Starts with Peace with God –Through Jesus

A)That opens the door to experiencing the Peace of God or Peace within.

B)Now you are His Child – open access to come to Him – bring your needs and cares

But there is one more Peace that we need to talk about **#3 Relational peace - peace with others**

A)When I realize – What God did to make a way for me to be at peace with Him

B)It is easier for me to be at Peace with others!

C)More I experience of His grace -become more gracious – things that used to bug me don't as much

D)When I realize what Jesus did for me how he forgave me – His enemy –

1)Becomes easier to forgive those who have wronged me!

When I am in a right place with the Lord – Peace with God – not focused on my perceived rights

A)Flip side: Not right with the Lord – all about my rights.

B)I am going to win this argument- I will show them who is right – who is wrong

C)This may come as a surprise to some of you – but your Pastor and his wife – fight sometimes.

1)Gasp – heart broken

D)We had this fight one time- Video

Now I was being a jerk – I could have dug in – my rights – Not apologizing

A)Holy Spirit spoke – You are being such a jerk – repent – apologize – seek peace!!!

¹⁸ If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans 12:18

B)Pursue Peace – Try to be Peace makers

C)Now I could have – resisted the HS – No I am right – she was wrong – TENSION – under the carpet
So the Peace that Jesus the Prince of peace came to bring was:

- **Spiritual Peace – Peace with God**
- **Emotional Peace – Peace within – Peace of God**
- **Relational Peace – Peace with others**

How do you enjoy this peace? Live in this peace. Walk in this peace All year long?

A)Suggest to you this morning – **3 things that are essential for experiencing this peace in your life**

#1 A Moment of Clarity

#2 A Move toward Humility

#3 A Mindset of Dependency

28 “Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am lowly and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28 CSB

B)#1 A Moment of Clarity – WE Admit

- We are weary and burdened by our sin – by the reality that we are not at peace with God.

C)In the book of Ephesians Paul the Apostle described our condition apart from Christ

1)We were wandering aimlessly through life – trying one thing after another to satisfy our fleshly appetites

D)Problem nothing worked – no lasting satisfaction

We need that moment of Clarity – I am lost – I have a void – nothing seems to fill.

A)I am weary and burdened by life!

B)Heart is Heavy – weighed down

C)Starts with a moment of Clarity

#2 We need a Move toward Humility

A)Jesus said: Come to me

B)Come to Jesus – Jesus I need you – Jesus I can’t do this on my own.

C)Some of you are carrying the weight of the world on your shoulders -

1)Jesus saying to you today – Come to me!

D)Arms open wide. –

Starts with a Moment of Clarity – need help

A)The opposite of Clarity is Denial

B)Many people live in Denial – I have got this – I can handle this

C)Me and God are ok – No Moment of Clarity – Come in Humility - Lord I need Help –

D)I need forgiveness – I need Grace

A Moment of Clarity – A Move in Humility

A)#3 A Mindset of Dependency - Jesus said - Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.....

B)Yoke was a piece of wood that linked two animals together – Two OX plow a field

C)Connect yourself to Jesus –

What is the purpose of a yoke? To make the load easier by sharing it.

A)If you don't yoke up a horse with another horse that horse has to pull the whole load by himself.

B)A yoke is a symbol of partnership.

C)What is Jesus saying here? Jesus is saying I didn't intend for you to pull all your worries,

1)pull all your burdens, pull all your stress, pull all your responsibilities by yourself through life.

D)That's why you're tired all the time.

In Reality: Jesus says Yoke yourself to me and I will carry it – I will even Carry you.

A)The last phrase is so interesting – My yoke is easy and my burden is light –

B)Easy = Well fitting – I have a plan and purpose for your life – well fitting – makes sense

1)Connect yourself to me – Daily – Discover it

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

A)In Christ today – Workmanship – Masterpiece IN THE MAKING

B)He has a plan for your life – as you connect to Him – you discover it

C)This is why he saved me – called me – this is his plan in this season = REST / PEACE

Today Moment of Clarity – Not at peace with God

A)Need Jesus –

B)Move in Humility – Come to Him today

Altar call – Connect to him today

Saved? – Need a Moment of Clarity

A)I am carrying the World on my shoulders

B)Your move in Humility – Come and admit – Lord I can't do this

C)New Mindset today – Yoke to Him – Depend on Him.