

Advent of God's Peace

Luke 2:14

(December 23, 2012)

Who will bring us peace? John 16:31-32

1) The Prince of Peace brings peace Is. 9:6

- Jesus brings a peace that is not of this world John 14:26-27, 30

2) The Prince of Peace will keep you in peace Is. 26:1-3

- As a believer in Jesus, you have positional peace with God Rom. 5:1
- If you wander from God, you will not have experiential peace Rom. 7:22-25

3) The Prince of Peace arrived as God's peace Luke 2:14

- Depend solely on Jesus for peace John 16:26-33

God will give you peace when you depend solely on Him!

- Jesus promises peace to those who depend on Him. This is peace in your soul. This is not a guarantee of peace in the world. This is a peace that surpasses all comprehension. It will keep you walking forward in God's plan. Phil. 4:6-7
- Don't fall for counterfeits of peace in the world. The government will not be able to provide peace by taking away your freedoms, or controlling your life, or putting away criminals in jail. The government has one responsibility and that is Romans 13. Cf. 2 Cor. 11:3-4
- If you don't have peace, Jesus is not controlling your life. You can have peace in the midst of chaos, horrific geo-political problems and environmental catastrophes, because you are trusting Jesus. John 16:32-33
- Your utter dependence on Jesus will give you internal peace. Not just for Christmas, but for every day. John 14:27

Message Based Discussion Questions

- 1) Was there peace in your life growing up? Did you have to look for peace?

Digging Deeper:

- 2) There are 88 times "violence" and related words are used and 396 times that the word "peace" is used. Why do you suppose that is?
- 3) How do you explain that Jesus is the Lamb of God (John 1:29) with the image portrayed in Revelation 1: 12-18?
- 4) How can you have peace when you are in the midst of a hurricane (Is. 26:3)? Is it just mental gymnastics? How do you explain the reality to a young Christian?

Making application of the message to life:

- 5) If God reveals peace during the Advent Season, how can you make it a reality the rest of the year? What will you need to do when conflict arises?
- 6) How would you disciple someone to follow the Lord in a greater measure of peace? What Scriptures? Principles? Practical lessons or ideas? Contingency plans?