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## Peace Pt 1 God is a God of peace & He gives His children peace

This is our first study on the word “peace” in the scriptures. There are 420 occurrences of the word. In this study we establish (1) God is a God of peace, (2) there is not peace unto the wicked, and (3) the work of righteousness is peace.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

### 1. God is a God of peace

“Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you” (Phil.4: 9). See–1 Thes.5: 23, Heb.13: 20.

### 2. There is NO peace unto the wicked

“There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked” (Is.48: 22). See also– Is.57: 21.

### 3. The work of righteousness is peace

“And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever” (Is.32: 17).

#### Illustration

The children of Israel were born out of affliction, a time when they had no peace, God brought them out of Egypt by His right hand, but they rebelled in the wilderness and had no peace. For the next generation that made it into the land and worshipped idols they had no peace when they were removed from the land.

Question to think about.

- i) If God is a God of peace why did Israel not have peace?
- ii) For his disobedient children how does God bear the fruit of peace in them?

Answer from the scriptures

I) For much of Israel’s journey they did not love God’s **law**, which, when his children do they have “great **peace**” (Ps.119: 165).

When his children love His law, they hearken to His commandment and have peace  
“O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea” (Is.48: 18).

Israel lived in confusion being beguiled by the false prophets who prophesied peace when there was no peace (Ez.13:16–17,22–23). For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace – (1 Cor.14:33).

The Lord will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee” (Is.26: 3).

ii) For his disobedient children God chastises them and they bear the peaceable fruit of righteousness

“Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby” (Heb.12: 11).

Therefore, whether we be a righteous child or disobedient we will bear peace, and that peace is linked with righteousness. So if you feel like you have no peace, look at your walk and watch God unfold His chastisement upon you, and in His time you will bear the peaceable fruit of righteousness. Because peace is only born from righteousness – the fruit of the Spirit of God, given by the God of peace. Amen!!

## Meaning of “peace”– according to the scriptures:–

The opposite of peace is–

\* evil

“I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things” (Is.45: 7).

\* War

“A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace” (Ecc.3: 8).

“And if it will make no peace with thee, but will make war against thee, then thou shalt besiege it” (Deut.20: 12).

“For he had dominion over all [the region] on this side the river, from Tiphshah even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him” (1 Kgs 4: 24).

“And he said, Whether they be come out for peace, take them alive; or whether they be come out for war, take them alive” (1Kgs 20: 18).

“I am for peace: but when I speak, they are for war” (Ps.120: 7).

\* mischief

“Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts” (Ps.28: 3).

\* Deceit

“For they speak not peace: but they devise deceitful matters against them that are quiet in the land” (Ps.35: 20).

To have peace– is to fear not

“And he said, Peace be to you, fear not: your God, and the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks: I had your money. And he brought Simeon out unto them” (Gen.43: 23).

“And when Gideon perceived that he [was] an angel of the Lord, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord God! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face” (Jud.6: 22).

“And the Lord said unto him, Peace [be] unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die” (Jud. 6: 23).

Where there is peace there is quietness

“Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days” (1 Chr.22: 9).

Righteousness and peace are linked together as are mercy and truth

“Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other” (Ps.85: 10).

Peace is linked with truth

“And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth” (Es.9: 30).

When we hold our peace we do not speak

“The nobles held their peace, and their tongue cleaved to the roof of their mouth” (Job 29:10).

“Mark well, O Job, hearken unto me: hold thy peace, and I will speak” (Job 33:31).

“If not, hearken unto me: hold thy peace, and I shall teach thee wisdom” (Job 33:33).

