God with Us: Got Peace?

Wylie Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – December 8, 2024

Ephesians 2:12-17

remember that at that time (when we were sinners) you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.

God's Peace...

1. IS ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH JESUS

John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so that $\underline{\text{in me you may have}}$ $\underline{\text{peace}}$..."

Isaiah 9:6

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, <u>Prince</u> of Peace.

Ephesians 2:14

For <u>he himself is our peace</u>, (He) has <u>destroyed the barrier</u>, the dividing wall of hostility...

God's Peace...

2. IS LINKED TO FAITH IN CHRIST

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 2:13

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

God's Peace...

3. TRANSCENDS <u>FEELINGS</u> & CIRCUMSTANCES

Philippians 4:12

I have learned the secret of being <u>content in any and every situation</u>.

Philippians 4:6-7

6 <u>Do not be anxious about anything</u>, but <u>in everything</u>, by <u>prayer</u> and <u>petition</u>, with <u>thanksgiving</u>, present your requests to God. 7 And the <u>peace of God</u>, which <u>transcends all understanding</u>, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

God's Peace...

4. PROVES OUR FAITH GENUINE

<u>John 14:27</u>

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the <u>fruit of the Spirit</u> is love, joy, <u>peace</u>, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control.