

THE BIBLE WORD SERIES

A Brief Study of those Important Words found in the Bible that we need to understand, not just skip over.

PEACE

שלום = "Peace" in Hebrew

εἰρήνη = "Peace" in Greek

The Hebrew word for "peace" = "to be completed" or "to be safe".

The Greek word for "peace" = "to tie together into a whole" or "to join".

1. How would you define "there's a peace in my heart"?

2. Here is one way the word "peace" used in the Bible. Match the items.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| a. Ecclesiastes 3:8 | ___ Peace with my <u>neighbors</u> |
| b. Proverbs 16:7 | ___ Peace within the walls of my <u>town</u> |
| c. Psalm 122:7 | ___ Peace on the <u>earth</u> |
| d. Psalm 28:3 | ___ A time of <u>peace</u> from <u>war</u> |
| e. Luke 2:14 | ___ Peace in this <u>house</u> |
| f. Luke 10:5 | ___ Peace with my <u>enemies</u> |

**OUTSIDE
PEACE?**

The world is in turmoil. Everywhere I turn, somebody needs some peace. Notice that the "peace" needed in question #2 is for things all around us. We are surrounded by wars, neighbors, enemies, etc.

3. Is it safe to assume that most people in the world think that "peace" is the ABSENCE OF WAR? ___Yes ___No
4. Are we ever going to experience "no wars" in the period we are in now before the Lord returns? ___Yes ___No
5. In our present lives (in this world), there will always be countries, towns, homes, & people who have no peace. ___Yes ___No

6. Here is another way the word "peace" is used in the Bible. Match.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| a. Psalm 29:11 | ___ We can enjoy abundant <u>peace</u> <u>within</u> us. |
| b. Psalm 34:14 | ___ God's <u>peace</u> will <u>strengthen</u> His people (us). |
| c. Psalm 37:11 | ___ Righteousness & <u>peace</u> work together <u>in</u> my life. |
| d. Psalm 55:18 | ___ We are to <u>seek</u> <u>peace</u> & not evil. |
| e. Psalm 85:10 | ___ If I obey God, I will <u>experience</u> <u>peace</u> . |
| f. Psalm 119:165 | ___ My <u>soul</u> can have <u>peace</u> from the battles. |

**INSIDE
PEACE!**

Obviously, people look at "peace" differently.

NEGATIVE AND WITHOUT HOPE

- Psalm 28:3 ... the wicked ... who speaking peace to their neighbors, but evil in their hearts.
Psalm 35:20 For they do not speak peace, but rather devise deceitful plans.
Psalm 120:6 My soul has dwelt too long with one who hates peace.
Psalm 120:7 I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war.
Isaiah 48:22 There is no peace for the wicked - says the Lord.
Ezekiel 7:25 Destruction comes; they will seek peace, but there will be none.

POSITIVE AND FULL OF HOPE

- Proverbs 3:1-2 My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace will be added to your life.
Psalm 4:8 I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.
Proverbs 12:20 Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, but those who promote peace have joy.
Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains (for all to see) are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings good news about good things; who proclaims salvation; who says YOUR GOD REIGNS.
Romans 5:1 Therefore, being justified (declared innocent by God) by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

7. Answer these questions from the "Without Hope" verses.

- a. Ps. 28:3 What does not promote peace?

- b. Ps. 35:20 Can a person speak one thing & say another? ___Yes ___No
- c. Ps. 120:6 Do we get peace from ___ within or ___ from without?
- d. Ps. 120:7 Is peace the opposite of any kind of war? ___Yes ___No
(Keep in mind that wars can happen inside of us or outside of us.)
- e. Is. 48:22 Who will never have peace? _____
- f. Eze. 7:25 Some people will seek for peace too late. What will they find?

(A very sad thing)

8. Answer these questions from the "Full of Hope" verses.

- a. Prov. 3:1-2 How do we get peace in our lives?

- b. Ps. 4:8 How do "lie down" & "sleep" describe peace from God?

- c. Pr. 12:20 A person with a deceitful, evil heart still might think he can have a "fun & happy" life; does that include joy? ___Yes ___No
- d. Is. 52:7 What does a man with inner peace believe & say?

- e. Rom. 5:1 How do we get peace from God?

Some good, related words (O.T.)

- "Rest" Psalm 38:3
"Safe" Job 21:9
"Prosper" Job 9:4
"Wholly" Jer. 13:19
"Finish" Neh. 6:15
"Full" Exodus 22:3

Some good, related words (N.T.)

- "Quietness" Acts 24:2
"Rest" Acts 9:31
"One" Acts 7:26

Jeremiah 17:9 *The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; nobody knows how bad.*
 Isaiah 48:22 *There is no peace for the wicked, says the Lord.*
 Mark 7:21-22 *For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man.*

Isn't this lovely reading? If these verses are true (OF COURSE, THEY ARE) - THEN

No way is peace going to come from our hearts (our inner self).

We inherited a sinful nature - There is definitely no peace in there.

OK, WHERE DO WE GET PEACE??

John 14:27 *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 I be afraid.*
 Romans 1:7 *Grace to you and peace FROM God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*
 Romans 10:15 *How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace.*
 Romans 15:33 *Now may the God of peace be with you.*
 Col. 1:19-20 *For it pleased the Father that in Christ all the fulness should dwell, and by Christ to reconcile all things (in heaven or earth), to Himself, HAVING MADE PEACE THROUGH THE BLOOD OF HIS CROSS.*
 Eph. 2:14 *For Christ Himself is our peace (Our peace is Christ). He has broken down the wall of separation between a Holy God & sinful man.*

9. From the verses above, answer the following questions.

- a. John 14:27 Who was Jesus talking to here? _____
- b. John 14:27 Was he talking to ___ believers or ___ unbelievers?
- c. Romans 1:7 Where does peace come from? _____
- d. Rom. 10:15 ...those who preach the gospel of _____
- e. Rom. 15:33 Our guarantee = "the God of peace be _____".
- f. Col. 1:20 How is our "peace" possible? _____
- g. Eph. 2:14 Our peace is _____. Christ is our _____.

When you and I received Christ as our Savior, what did we get?

- a. *Forgiveness of our sins*
- b. *Eternal life (while we live here & forever in heaven)*
- c. *The "Peace of God"*
- d. *The Holy Spirit*
- e. *...and a million other blessings from God*

LET'S LOOK AT THE DEFINITION OF "PEACE" AGAIN.

+ "Peace " = "to tie together into a whole" (Even when nothing seems to fit together)

+ "Peace" = "to complete the project & then be safe"; "to make full & finished"

This is not the art of positive thinking; this is not happiness; this is not optimism or a glass half full; this is not "the Lord helps those who help themselves". NO! NO!

Peace is much bigger than all that.

*A person who struggles with negative thinking or positive thinking CAN HAVE PERMANENT PEACE IN THEIR HEART.
 A person who swings back and forth with happiness and unhappiness CAN HAVE PERMANENT PEACE IN THEIR HEART.
 A person who is pessimistic one minute and optimistic the next CAN HAVE PERMANENT PEACE IN THEIR HEART.
 YOU HAVE A PERMANENT PEACE IN YOUR HEART BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THERE.*

WHAT DOES THIS PEACE FROM GOD DO FOR US?

X 2 Cor. 13:11 *Finally brethren, my farewell words to you: BECOME COMPLETE (mature). BE OF GOOD COMFORT, BE OF ONE MIND, all of which is living in peace; and the God of love & peace will be with you.*

The word "peace" means to "tie things together". It's a connector. It brings together the faithfulness of God & the faith of man. When things are bad and we think about not trusting God, His peace in our life kicks in.

He connects God & me. He reminds my weak faith that He is still faithful. (Peace)

10. Notice the words "complete", "comfort", and "one mind"; they all mean "peace".
How are these truths affecting your life? _____

X 2 Thess. 5:23 *Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify (set you apart & make you pure) you COMPLETELY; and may your WHOLE spirit, soul & body be PRESERVED (safe) & KEPT blameless at the coming of Jesus Christ.*

The word "peace" means "to keep me safe within the struggles of life". It's a connector. It brings together the beginning & the end of my Christian life. When things get weak & rocky, His peace in my life kicks in.

11. Where are you in your life? Are there times of victory & confidence? Are there times when you have hit a hopeless bottom? _____

2 Tim. 2:22 *Flee youthful lusts; but pursue & ENJOY righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord - pursue all this with pure heart.*

Col. 3:15 *And let the peace of God RULE in your hearts, to which you were called in one body; and be thankful.*

The things that are happening in your life - did God allowed them? He may not have caused them; you probably did. His peace, however, is a connector. God will connect you with the fact that He is the CONTROLLER of everything. That is God's peace.

Go ahead; say it, "Lord, I have no control over my life; I thought I was in charge but I messed it all up., Now. I face terrible consequences.

Phil 4:6 *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication (personal requests), let those requests be made known to God;*

Phil. 4:7 *And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts & minds (that same understanding) through Christ Jesus.*

Rom. 8:28 *And we know that all things work together for good (our good & God's will) to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

12. What two things does the "peace of God" do for me?

- a. "The peace of God surpasses all _____".
- b. "The peace of God will _____ my heart & mind".

God knows everything & He does everything right in my life. When He reminds me of that, comforts me, and encourages me, THAT IS THE PEACE OF GOD FOR ME.

Gal. 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; none of these are bad.

13. The Holy Spirit is working in my heart & life every day. He is producing fruit (good character & good works) in me that will honor Him, grow me, and bless others. A piece of that fruit is **peace**. __Yes __No

14. Are there things that don't make sense in your life? Do you believe that God will help you work through the problems; help you refuse to give up; help you talk to God about it; help you hang on?

- a. If you know He is going to guide through all this, that is God's peace in you.
- b. If you know you are not going to give up, that is God's peace in you.
- c. If you are talking to God about all of it, that is God's peace in you.
- d. If you are hanging on with faith & grit, that is God's peace in you.

HOW ARE YOU HANDLING YOUR STUFF? _____

John 19:28 Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, was thirsty & was given sour wine to drink.
John 19:30 Jesus, after drinking the sour wine, said, "It is finished".

Remember, the word "peace" means "to show me that the dots will connect", "to show me that the project is going to be completed", "to show me that the goals are going to be fulfilled", "to comfort me that the purpose is being accomplished".

15. How does this encourage you? _____

Jesus gave us the ultimate "peace". He said, I have completed the purpose for which I came - I died for your sins. "IT IS FINISHED." My peace I leave you.