

# UNTO US – PRINCE OF PEACE

## INTRODUCTION

John Calvin applies these various names of the Messiah...

*"Whenever, in short, it appears to us that everything is in a ruinous condition, let us recall to our remembrance that Christ is called Wonderful, because he has inconceivable methods of assisting us, and because his power is far beyond what we are able to conceive. When we need counsel, let us remember that he is the Counselor. When we need strength, let us remember that he is Mighty and Strong. When new terrors spring up suddenly every instant, and when many deaths threaten us from various quarters, let us rely on that eternity of which he is with good reason called the Father, and by the same comfort let us learn to soothe all temporal distresses. When we are inwardly tossed by various tempests, and when Satan attempts to disturb our consciences, let us remember that Christ is The Prince of Peace, and that it is easy for Him quickly to allay all our uneasy feelings. Thus will these titles confirm us more and more in the faith of Christ, and fortify us against Satan and against hell itself."*

*My prayer* ↗

### Isaiah 9:6 ESV

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## FORECAST

In this passage Isaiah is prophesying about a deliverer who will come and deliver his people from oppression and bring about God's salvation. This Saviour who will come, who would be born as a child and given as a son, among other things will be called, Prince of peace. When Isaiah prophesies that his name shall be called Prince of peace, he does not mean that the Saviour will be called by that name or addressed by that title. He intends, and therefore God intends, that this Saviour will merit this designation because it will be descriptive of his character and actions. We begin by considering what Isaiah would have meant when he predicted the Saviour would merit being called "Prince of peace."

## PRINCE

Prince means a leader; commander; captain; chief; prince; ruler, chieftain, etc..

The saviour whom Isaiah foresaw would be the epitome of peace; a ruler and commander of peace.

**Isaiah 9:7 ESV** Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

So what is peace for Isaiah?

## PEACE

This is the first of 23 references to PEACE in Isaiah

The root denotes completion or wholeness.

Peace conveys a range of meanings including safe, well, happy, friendly; welfare, health, prosperity, absence of strife, completeness, harmony, fulfillment.

Isaiah foresaw a Saviour who would bring about a wholeness and completeness in the lives of his people. He would bring peace in their relationship with God, peace in their relationships with each other, safety and security in their relationships with peoples outside of their covenant community, and peace with themselves. He would be peace's chieftain and peace's champion.

### FORETASTE

We get a foretaste of this Saviour who is the Prince of peace in the life of Jesus. Our initial evaluation indicates that Jesus is the fulfillment of this prophecy. We see this not only in his peaceful ways, but also in his teaching.

**John 14:27 ESV** Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. → his disciples were to have a sense of peace

**John 16:33 ESV** I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world → he is the champion of peace... he has overcome the world and brought peace to his followers

⇒ HE TAUGHT PEACE + LIVED IT!

**Matthew 26:47-56 ESV**

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup> Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." <sup>49</sup> And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. <sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. <sup>51</sup> And

behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. <sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword." <sup>53</sup> Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" <sup>55</sup> At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. <sup>56</sup> But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Jesus was a saviour who lived peaceably and taught his disciples the importance of peace. This, of course, is interesting in light of our earlier sermon on Mighty God in which it is clearly implied that the Saviour is also a Divine Warrior. Nevertheless, his life and teaching point to him being Isaiah's Prince of peace.

#### FULFILLMENT

The fulfillment of Jesus being the Saviour who is called "Prince of peace" begins with his life and comes to its pinnacle in his the death and resurrection.

**Hebrews 13:20-21 ESV** <sup>20</sup> Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, <sup>21</sup> equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**WHAT IS PEACE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT? ⇒ AND HOW DOES JESUS FULFILL THE PROPHECY THAT HE WOULD BE THE PRINCE OF PEACE.**

*Peace in the NT points to...*

## RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

**Romans 5:1, 6-11 ESV**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ...

- Peace is being in a right relationship with God which arises out of our being justified.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

- Our justification, and therefore our peace with God, has been won for us by Jesus Christ, our Prince of peace, through his death and resurrection.

*Peace in the NT also describes...*

## TRANQUIL AND SERENE STATE OF MIND

Isaiah indicates that an inner rest and freedom from chaos and turmoil is desirable and that it comes from God"

- **Isaiah 26:3 ESV** You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

The New Testament suggests the same:

- **Colossians 3:15 ESV** And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

The imperative “let the peace of Christ rule in your heart” of the third chapter of Colossians is preceded in the second chapter by the gospel indicatives that are a foundation for Paul’s admonishment:

- **Colossians 2:8, 11-14 ESV** <sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

The peace of Christ ruling our hearts—an inner tranquility and serenity—has as its foundation the union of a believer with Christ in his death and resurrection.

*Peace in the NT also speaks of*

HARMONY BETWEEN EACH OTHER - *particularly w/in the covenant community*

Relational harmony with other believers is another aspect of New Testament peace and it, like the other aspects, comes from our Saviour Jesus Christ.

- **Romans 12:18 ESV** If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Living peaceably comes out of our union with the Prince of peace

- **Ephesians 2:14-18 ESV** <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup>And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

*Finally, peace in the NT describes...*

ABSENCE OF WAR, PAIN, CHAOS

Another NT aspect of peace that is largely future-oriented.

### **Revelation 21:1-4, 22-27 ESV**

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." ...

<sup>22</sup> And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, <sup>25</sup> and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> They will bring into it the glory and

the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup> But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

**Revelation 5:6 ESV** And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

The peace of freedom from all war and chaos is the peace of the Prince of peace who will bring about this final climactic peace through his life, death, and resurrection. *and final return*

In his life, Jesus was a Saviour who lived a peaceful life and we saw that he taught the importance of peace. The true fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy of a Saviour who would be the Prince of Peace is seen in Jesus' death and resurrection through which he accomplished and enabled his people to have peace with God, peace within, peace with others, and a promised peace through the universe.

From a practical stand point, let's consider how to apply the truth that the Prince of Peace leads us into peace with God, within ourselves, with others, and in the world.

## FOR YOU

### RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Make your peace with God? No!

We have peace because we have been justified.

**Romans 3:23 -25 ESV** <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a



propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

Receive the gift of peace with God through repentance and faith.  
GOSPEL

#### TRANQUIL AND SERENE STATE OF MIND

**Psalm 119:165 ESV** Great peace have those who love your law; nothing can make them stumble.

- *Be in God's Word → 2019 be a year of being in God's Word!*
- Yearly Bible reading plan.

**Philippians 4:6-7 ESV** <sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- *Be much in prayer → 2019 be a year where we prayed like never before*
- Men's and women's prayer.
- *Prayer Team for Cross Con*

#### HARMONY BETWEEN EACH OTHER

**Colossians 3:12-15 ESV** <sup>12</sup> Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

- *love one another... in word and deed.*
- *1 Cor 13 → patient, kind, does not envy, does not boast, is not arrogant, is not rude, does not insist on its own way, is not irritable, is not resentful, does not rejoice in wrongdoing, rejoices in the truth, bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things*

*As we anticipate a day with a complete and unending...*

ABSENCE OF WAR, PAIN, CHAOS

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## WAIT

**Matthew 24:36 ESV** "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

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## WATCH

**Matthew 25:13 ESV** Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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## WANT

**Hebrews 9:28 ESV** so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.