



The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

The Lord bless you
and keep you;

the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;

the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

Numbers 6:22-26
NRSV

“Longing for Peace”

December 6, 2019

At Christmas, we are longing for peace, but often find _____.
If we’re not careful, the busyness of this season can hide the _____ of this season.

We often look for peace in all of the _____ places.

The good news: Peace is _____!

The Christmas story is a story of God bringing _____ on earth!

God Gives Peace.

Numbers 6:22-26 (“The Priestly Blessing”)

For the Israelites, the peace of God was considered one of the _____ blessings.

Isaiah 43:1-2 – God’s peace is not the absence of difficulty, but God’s presence in the middle of it.

When God wanted to speak the greatest Word of peace,
God sent Jesus Christ. #1Cfridays

God’s Greatest Peace is Seen in Jesus.

John 14:27

Distinctions Between the World’s Peace and Christ’s Peace:

1) The world’s “peace” is won by its _____ and might, but Christ’s peace is experienced in humility and self-giving love.

Example: The “Pax Romana” verses Christ’s Humble Birth

2) The world’s “peace” is won by putting others _____, but Christ’s peace is experienced in lifting up the lowly.

Example: Herod’s Violence verses the Homeless Shepherds

3) The world’s “peace” is uncertain and _____, but Christ’s peace is sure and eternal.

Example: The Reign of the Emperor verses the Reign of Christ

God’s Peace is For All.

God’s peace is _____, _____, and part of the _____ of creation. As we wait for Christ’s second coming, we can walk in His peace today, cultivate communities of peace, and work for peace in _____.

Action Steps: 1) _____ what is keeping you from peace, and “repeat it in the ears of the Lord” (1 Sam. 8:21). 2) Ask God for _____.

3) Spend _____ with Jesus, the Prince of Peace, daily.

4) Follow Christ’s _____ (not the world’s example) of peace.