



Peace on Earth, good will toward men



Seven hundred and fifty years prior to the birth of Jesus, the stately prophet Isaiah spoke of His birth, saying, "His name will be called...Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9: 6) On the night Jesus was born, a multitude of angels appeared in the heavens and proclaimed, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:14)

Peace is something most everyone desires. We want peace in our lives, our marriages, our churches, between races, and between nations. Yes, mankind aches for peace.

When we turn on the news, we often hear of anything but peace. We hear the latest statistics on divisive issues like pandemics and vaccines, and we hear of looting, rioting, and increasing violence. The leaders of our country make promises about peace, and leaders of other nations claim THEY have the only plan for peace. We are foolish to believe any of them, as human leaders have been promising peace for centuries. Peace comes ONLY through Jesus Christ! Man has never, nor will he ever, usher in

lasting peace. But the lovely Lord Jesus can, and ultimately will!

The peace that Jesus gives should be celebrated during the Christmas season, for He brought the peace of forgiveness and reconciliation. That's one of the primary reasons for Christmas.

As we give thought to the birth of Jesus, what can we do to make the celebration of His birth a special occasion? How can we give Him the attention which is due Him? Perhaps we could ask someone who is lonely to share a meal with us. We can write or call a loved one or a dear friend. We can gather with other believers in worship and take to heart the challenges that are presented to us from God's Word. We can tell our children and grandchildren the story of the birth of Jesus, which offers hope on this earth and the hope of eternal life in Heaven if we accept His gift. Perhaps, within our families, we should take time to discuss how we might bring the peace of Christ to someone's life, particularly in this season.

May God help us to be like the little girl who, upon unwrapping her gift, was asked, "Did you get everything you wanted for Christmas?" She thought for a moment and said, "No. But that's okay because it's not my birthday."

During this blessed season, Doris and I want to thank each of you who support the ministry with your prayers and your finances. Were it not for you, the Gospel being shared throughout the world would be limited. It is our sincere hope and prayer that the peace of Jesus will fill your hearts and homes this Christmas season and in the coming year.

Duck Nicholson

**"So then
faith
cometh
by
hearing
and
hearing
by the
of
God."**

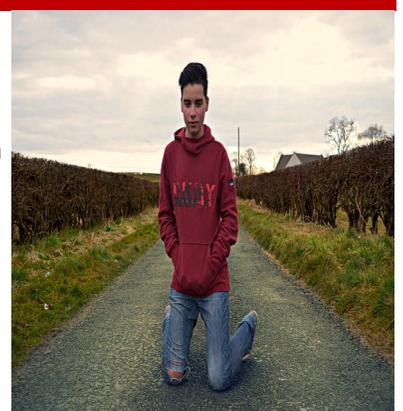
**Romans
10:17**

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GET ON YOUR KNEES

A minister was watching some men repairing a section of a highway. His attention was especially drawn to an elderly man who knelt as he broke stones for the hole in the highway. The minister observed that this man did more work than the ones who were standing while breaking stones. Then he said to the kneeling man whom he knew well, "John, I wish I could break the stony hearts of my hearers as easily as you are breaking those stones!" With a twinkle in his eyes John said, "Pastor, you could if you worked on your knees!"



What is love? Is it a “many-splendored thing” like Shakespeare wrote? “Love” is undoubtedly in the running for the most overused word in the English language.

Homosexuality proponents often trumpet, “Love is love.” “It’s all the same,” they say. “Your love is equal to my love, as we are all equal on this planet.”

Instinctively, most know that this is not right. And it’s not what the Bible teaches.

The Bible provides so many warnings about earthly love’s dangers. The most obvious examples are those who love evil. Judas fell in love with evil, believing that betraying Jesus would force Christ to act. This love can only have one outcome: death.

Slightly next up the chain is a love of self, narcissism. Saul of the Old Testament is a great example. While initially ruling Israel following God’s will, Saul could not emotionally deal with David’s ever-growing popularity. He died out of God’s favor because he selfishly clung to power rather than adhering to God’s commands.

Next on the list is romantic love. Today, society teaches us that no higher love exists, and popular entertainment glorifies it daily. In truth, romantic love is based on feelings of pleasure in self. “I love the way you make me feel,” an old song goes. Romantic love means pleasing yourself by pleasing another. It’s still selfish.

Slightly up from that might be the love of one’s group: patriotism. In the proper context, patriotism can be a wonderful thing. Think of those who served in the military over the years. Many loved our country and way of life enough to sacrifice themselves. They gave their lives for their country.

But many soldiers in Nazi Germany had an incredible amount of patriotism, too. They loved their country even as Hitler performed his atrocities. Patriotism is a double-edged sword because it still is predicated on the love of things man has made. It ultimately fails.

Perhaps the purest love we can know innately is the love of a mother for her child. It’s as close to *agape*, a pure and selfless love, as fallible human beings can instinctively know. Mothers simply want what’s best for their children and are willing to do anything for their future.

Who can transcend that love? Only our Father. He knowingly sent His Son to this wretched planet that had turned away from Him. He knew Jesus would suffer grief and pain and would ultimately die in agony. He did this out of pure love, sacrificing His only Son for the undeserving. God had nothing to gain and everything to lose, but He sent Jesus anyway.

God’s love to us manifested itself as a baby in a manger in Bethlehem 2000 years ago, and that love is why we celebrate Christmas.

Merry Christmas.



Pastor Nicholson, getting to hear your Spreading the Word today was terrific. My sister has been telling me about you but when I came over today she sat me down and we listened together. What a blessing! J. Tally Paradise, CA

Dear pastor, I can’t believe the evangelicals who support the racist criminal in the White House of these United States. We are taught from a young age that Jesus is love... not hate. But the angry, uneducated, racist white people seem to have forgotten all about that. I think Jesus is shedding a tear. It is very sad. P. Stone

Pastor Buck, my life is blessed in many ways. Friends say that I am an optimist, seeing only the best. But I say no. It simply that I see and am grateful for what God has done for my life. It makes me want to be stronger in my faith and to learn all that he laid out for me. I always enjoyed your informative and quite educational program. It is a blessing. M. Ricaro

Pastor Nicholson I hope that you take requests for prayer because my brother was hurt in an accident with his car last week and has had to have surgeries. God can heal him and give him his health again. M. Benigni Florence, Italy

Pastor Nicholson, when you come on, I stop what I’m doing because I know you always have an interesting topic I can learn from. Thanks Brother Buck. J. Allen Honolulu, Hawaii

Here is the way they catch monkeys in the South Sea islands. They tie a coconut to a palm tree, bore a hole in the coconut, and put some rice in the coconut. Then an inquisitive monkey comes along, looks in the coconut, sees the rice, reaches in with his paw, and gets a handful of rice. Then, he discovers that his doubled up fist is so big he cannot draw it out of the hole. His captor comes and takes the silly monkey away. Now, all the monkey would have had to do to escape is let go of the rice, but he won’t let go. He holds on to that rice screaming, begging, pleading that he not be captured, but he won’t let go. Do you know anyone like that? Well, there are a lot of them—silly monkeys who don’t have their prayers answered because there’s something in their life of which they will not let go.



Your Gift Is Appreciated

Many of you are aware that the month of November is set aside each year for a special one-time offering. Last year was wonderful, and this November has been encouraging. There are some who find it best for them to give an offering once a year. For that we are appreciative. However, it must be noted, there are many who give monthly. In fact, there are a few who have given every month for the past 13 years. Then there are those who give sporadically. Regardless of how one has chosen to support, it takes all gifts to have sufficient funds to broadcast weekly over 106 radio stations. Again, allow me to let it be known that there isn’t anyone who works daily or weekly that receives monetary compensation. All work is done by volunteers. You can be assured that every dollar given will be a dollar paid toward many stations that send forth the message of Jesus. Please accept our appreciation for your prayers and financial assistance. May all the glory be given to the Lord.

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