

Peace be with you!

This word “Peace” is lingering within me right now. And I keep mulling its deepest meaning.

I believe God has so predisposed us that one of the deepest longings of every man’s heart is for peace.

And this longing for peace is a dim reflection of the longing He has for friendship with us.

The Merriam Dictionary defines peace as

“inner tranquility and serenity of soul,

so much more than freedom from or cessation of war or *hostilities...*”

INNER TRANQUILITY AND SERENITY OF SOUL..... Hmmm.

Daniel Noah Webster’s 1841 Dictionary has this description:

“to be at peace, to be reconciled; to live in harmony.”

TO BE RECONCILED.....Hmmmm.

To be reconciled, Webster says. To whom? to what?

One cannot be reconciled in the deepest part of himself to a thing; therefore it must be to a person.

What does it mean to be reconciled? Again Mr. Webster:

“Greek: the literal sense is to call back into union.

To conciliate anew, to call back **into** union and **friendship** the affections which have been alienated.

to restore to friendship or favor after estrangement, as, to reconcile men or parties that have been at variance.

So to be at peace, is to come back into union, or if you will, communion (“com” means “with”, thus communion = union or oneness with) and to experience affections which have been interrupted.

I see here a wonderful progression. Consider:

- A. You and I are, if you will, “programmed” to desire, to need peace.
- B. But I cannot “make” peace by myself.

C. Indeed I need Another to forgive me. I need to experience forgiveness from outside myself for it to really “take.” Only Another can do this for me.

D. Jesus is “An-Other,” He is THE “Other”. He is THE One, and the Only One who has the capability of actually forgiving us and giving us the gift of peace.

Listen to your Father’s Heart, watch the unstoppable Love He has for you and me.

Ro 5:10 For if while we were enemies we were **reconciled** to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been **reconciled**, we shall be saved by His life.

2Co 5:18 Now all these things are from God, who **reconciled** us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,

2Co 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; **we beg you** on behalf of Christ, be **reconciled** to God.

Col 1:22 yet He has now **reconciled** you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach--

Oh what wondrous joy! What indescribable kindness. That God would so love you – and even me!.

So here is His gift to us –

Jesus our Righteousness.

Jesus our Friend.

Jesus our Hero.

Jesus our Liberator.

Jesus our Forgiver.

Jesus our Peace.

Lord, it is IN You, it is Through You, that I finally fully come to know Peace and communion with You.

Dear friend, this little meditation is a love note from Him. I believe He would say to us,

“Peace be with you.”

“My Peace I give to you.”.

So Peace, Reconciliation, Communion.

May the One who is Peace Himself, the very Breath of God Incarnate, kiss you with His merciful love this Christmas.

For He **is** our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the **dividing wall**....., **Eph 2:14**

