Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:1-7
Ephesians 2:11-22
December 8, 2024

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.
Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)

The Big Idea: There was a time when we didn't belong to God or to His Family. In Christ, the hostilities cease (or, are supposed to). We find our peace and sense of belonging and identity in Him.

Ephesians 2:11-22 (ESV)

11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— 12 remember that you were at that time *separated from Christ*, *alienated from the commonwealth of Israel* and *strangers to the covenants of promise*, *having no hope* and *without God* in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off *have been brought near by the blood of Christ*.

14 For ***He himself is our peace***, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 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***, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

17 And ***He came and preached peace to you*** who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

1. There is No Genuine Peace With One Another Apart From Jesus.

2. There is No Genuine Peace With God Apart From Jesus.

◊ The path to peace begins with remembering …

11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— ***Ephesians 2:11 (ESV)***

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love. ***Galatians 5:6 (ESV)***

Why Remember?
- It Keeps us humble
- It Keeps us grateful
- It Keeps us obedient

◊ The path to peace goes through Jesus … *13 But now …*

- "But Now" I have Peace with God

  13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ***Ephesians 2:13 (ESV)***

- "But Now" I have Peace with Other Believers

  14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ***Ephesians 2:14 (ESV)***

  15 He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in Himself one new people from the two groups. ***Ephesians 2:15 (ESV)***

◊ The path to peace gives you a new reality.

Ephesians 2:19 (ESV) 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

Jesus, I need your peace.
Thank you for being my Wonderful Counselor, my Mighty God, my Everlasting Father, and my Prince of Peace!