

THE GIFT OF PEACE

Luke 2:8 That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep.

9 Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified,

10 but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people.

11 The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!

12 And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

The Void Of World Peace

Luke 12:51 Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I have come to divide people against each other!

John 16:33 I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

Struggles In The World

_____ Circumstances

1 Peter 4:12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you.

_____ People

Psalms 109:3 They surround me with hateful words and fight against me for no reason.

_____ Problems

Matthew 27:46...."My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

_____ World

1 John 5:19 We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one.

_____ Rejection

Matthew 5:11 "God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers.

_____ Worry

Luke 10:40 But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me."

41 But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details!

Surviving In This World

Don't _____ World Peace

Don't _____ A False Peace

Do _____ God's Peace

Receive God's _____

Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.

Colossians 1:19 For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,
20 and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

_____ To God's Presence

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

2 Thessalonians 3:16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you his peace at all times and in every situation. The Lord be with you all.

Respect God's _____

Psalm 85:8 I listen carefully to what God the Lord is saying, for he speaks peace to his faithful people. But let them not return to their foolish ways.

Psalm 119:165 Those who love your instructions have great peace and do not stumble.

_____ On God's Provision

Psalm 29:11 The Lord gives his people strength. The Lord blesses them with peace.

Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.