

Two Kinds of Peace

One of the greatest things about being a Christian is the peace that God gives. Everyone is in search of peace. God offers it without charge!



There are actually two different aspects of peace we can consider. One is when there is nothing between God and us. Our sins are forgiven and our conscience is clear. That is having peace with God. The second and just as important, is when we are faced with difficulties or have conflicts with people. These can be really strenuous, can't they?! Well, God is able to give us peace in the middle of the most difficult situations. This is the peace of or from God. It comes and soothes everything on the inside, even though the outside is in shambles.

Both of these types of peace are vital for our everyday life. Today, we will study about having peace with God. We will study about the peace of or from God another time.

Having peace with God means that there is nothing between us and our Creator. It also means that we can put our head down on our pillows at night with a clear conscience. Many people can only do that after taking medicine or alcohol. With God, that is not necessary. You can live in this peace.



How we get Peace

Peace is established with God when we turn to Jesus and accept Him as our Savior. At this moment, God considers us as being justified. This is a legal term and means that God sees us as if we have never, ever sinned.

This is found in the Bible in Romans, chapter 5, verse 1: "Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ," ASV. So once we are justified, (And how are we justified? By accepting the salvation that Jesus provided for us), we have peace with God.

Now God sees us as being fully justified. This is absolutely clear! The problem is that sometimes we do not fully accept it. We have the notion inside of us that we have done wrong, and we must pay for it. The payment is usually a guilty conscience.

However if God Himself, the Judge of the whole earth, declares that you are forgiven, who are you to not forgive yourself?! You might say, "How can He do this?" He can do this because Jesus Himself paid for our sins. The Bible says that He is our Justifier!



This means that His death atoned for the misdeeds we have done. So while everyone of us have done things in the past and these things cannot be changed, Jesus paid the price for those things. When we turn to God and ask Him to forgive us, He truly does, and declares us free from these sins.



There are two more things that we need to consider regarding the peace of God. One is, what do we do when our actions have affected others? Secondly, what about when we sin after we become a Christian?

When other people are involved, it is sometimes important to go back and make things right with them. For instance, if you have hurt someone, call them up and tell them that you are sorry and ask them to forgive you. However, these actions are not always possible. People move on or maybe they simply do not want to hear

from you. Then if that is the case, let it go. It does not change the fact of justification. God has forgiven you and you are right before Him.

What about when we sin after becoming a Christian? What do we then? God also has a solution for us when we later mess up. Look at the promise in 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins," ASV. When we mess up - and who does not - then confess it to God. He will do what He says. He will forgive you and cleanse you of these misdeeds.

So now you should have a good understanding of the peace of God. It is one of the most valuable assets a person could have. It is a gift to you from God! Romans 3:24 says that we are "justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." So take a deep breath, and thank God for this wonderful gift. He has paid the price for you!

Peace with God



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