

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ Last Words: Peace I Leave With You

Last time...Another Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,

- is how the disciples will do the “greater works” of v12
- is how Jesus will manifest Himself to His disciples after His return to His Father
- will teach Jesus’ disciples all of Jesus’ commandments/words/sayings
- will bring into remembrance of Jesus’ disciples all of Jesus’
commandments/words/sayings

John 2:14-22

John 12:12-16

Acts 11:15-17

This time...the 11 are stressed, restless, uneasy

Someone is going to betray Jesus this night; Who?!

Satan is going to sift Peter like wheat; What?!

Peter is going to deny Jesus 3 times this night; Peter?!

Jesus is leaving them and another Comforter is coming/staying; unknown and unseen

The conversation in the upper room ends

We will continue in John 14

v27 Peace I leave...My peace I give...your heart:

Would anybody describe the world as peaceful?

Anything but!

The nature of the world is hostility, not peace.

Ps 74:20 the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of
cruelty

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the
friendship of the world is enmity with God?
whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is
the enemy of God

John 7:7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I
testify of it, that the works thereof are evil

John 15:18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before *it*
hated you.

1 John 3:13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you

The nature of the world is hostility and therefore the world generates stress,
anxiety, fear, and confusion.

Sometimes those things are overwhelming

Stress, anxiety, fear, and confusion do great damage to our physical and emotional well-being

- headaches and migraines
- stomach pains and digestive problems
- restlessness
- poor sleep and/or loss of sleep
- depression (same symptoms as poor sleep)
- agitation and anger, even violence
- high blood pressure, chest pain, heart attacks, and stroke
- muscle tension and back pain
- jaw pain – clenched jaw and teeth grinding
- many kinds of inflammation
- weakened immune system
- loss of cognitive capabilities and attention e.g. PTSD
- infertility and complications with pregnancy
- premature aging

Stress kills

Fear paralyzes

Anxiety debilitates/weakens

To combat the stress, fear, anxiety, and confusion, the “peace” the world offers is

- force...human government (law enforcement, military)
- “cease fire”, “time out”...the halt of still-present hostility
- philosophy and religion...standing on the strength of man or false god
e.g. the “peace sign” (upside down, broken cross)
- pills, bottles, and other “masks”

Mankind wants love...but is looking in all the wrong places

Mankind wants peace...but is also looking in all the wrong places

Man must look to the Creator for both love and peace, which are His nature

e.g. the birth announcement of Immanuel (God with us)

Luke 2:13-14 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace (Is 9:6) and the Way of peace (Luke 1:79), offers the only antidote to stress, anxiety, fear, and confusion

Know Jesus, Know Peace

No Jesus, No Peace

The peace Jesus leaves/sends and gives is: His peace/quietness/rest
Mark 4:35-41 peace in the midst of the world's storms

Matt 5:9 **Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.**

Rom 5:1-2 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God

Gal 5:22-23 fruit of the indwelling Spirit includes peace
2 Tim 1:7

Phil 4:4-13

Ps 29:11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace

Ps 37:11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace

Ps 71:1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

Ps 85:8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints

Ps 119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

Ps 127:2 *It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep*

Ps 4:8 I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety

Is 26:3 Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed *on thee*: because he trusteth in thee

Peace is a gift of God, not a self-manufactured work of the flesh/world
Like all gifts of God, His peace is received by...faith
Faith and peace are interwoven
Grace and peace are also interwoven (intro of every Epistle)
Faith, grace, peace, and hope are all interwoven

The peace of Jesus is the gift of God to deal with stress, anxiety, fear, and confusion the world gives

We don't need

- yoga (worship positions of false gods of the Eastern religions)
- visualization...an altered state of mind
- New Age/Eastern meditation

to find the strength we need in the face of stressful circumstances

Jesus is our strength, He is our peace (Eph 2:14)

Therefore, "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

Choose God's gift of the peace of Jesus as the antidote for the stress and anxiety and fear and confusion of the world

Receive the peace of Jesus...by faith

v1-3 before their stress level goes off the chart

Focus on "Who" instead of "Why", "When", "How"

Knowing Who we can face whatever calmly, even death

Rom 14:8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's

Testimony: Rachelle email

Testimony: Monica's examinations this past Thursday

We believed the Lord had healed Monica and was going to show the doctors that He had

Waiting, I had a wonderful peace

Monica's peace was attacked by the repeated "need" for more x-rays and ultra-sounds...the world messing with her peace

Test results: Cancer free!

A great weight lifted by the Lord Who heals us...and gives us His peace

v28 If you loved Me you would rejoice:

Jesus has told them He is going away (v2) and coming again (v3, v18)

I suspect the 11 are more distressed about His leaving than they are comforted about His coming again because Jesus says

"If you loved Me, you would rejoice that I am going back to My Father."

If you preferred Me before yourselves, you would be very happy for Me... not stressing out or fearing for yourselves

The reason to rejoice: My Father is greater/larger/more than I.
What does that mean?

Jesus, God the Son, is no less God than God the Father

John 1:1

John 10:30

John 14:9

Phil 2:6-7

Col 1:15-22

Heb 1:1-8

Therein (in the Gospel) lies the answer

Jesus set aside His glory in heaven and became flesh/man

He is, as they speak in Ch 14, limited by His body,
confined in space and time

The Father is Spirit...Infinite, neither limited by nor confined in
His creation

Hence, Jesus will pray [John 17:5](#)

Jesus is going to get a glorified body at His Resurrection

Before resurrection comes death, however, but fear not...

In His glorified body,

- the “chains” of space and time are going to be broken for Jesus
- He will have a body suitable for heaven (flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God) to return to The Father

Then, at the appointed time, He will come back for His own so that
where He is they will be also

He is the Firstfruit of the Resurrection, we will also get glorified
bodies He has prepared that not limited by space and time

Love Jesus (Who He is and what He did) and rejoice!

He is going away...for their/our eternal good!

v29 told you before...you might believe:

Jesus is giving a prophesy, as in John 13:18-19

Jesus is sharing the “history of tomorrow” with the 11 and with us so that when the things Jesus says are going to happen do happen (e.g. Matt 24:3-8) and just as He said they would, we would believe/have faith in the Father, the Spirit, and Him.

Gen 15:6 faith and righteousness are interwoven

Hab 2:4 faith and eternal life are interwoven

Prophesy is proof that the Creator exists outside of His creation and communicates to us by His Word

This is the purpose of “prophesy”, the foretelling of history – that we would believe/trust/lean on the Word of God, build our lives on and live our lives governed by it/Him

Testimony: death of my Uncle Tom, stayed with Uncle Buck and Aunt Jean, *Late Great Planet Earth* ignited my hunger for the Word of God

v30 the prince of this world comes and has nothing in Me:

Jesus has precious little time remaining with the 11

Someone is waiting for Him – the devil in the Garden of Gethsemane

John 12:30-31

Eph 2:2 prince of the power of the air

Matt 4:1-11

Peter being sifted like wheat this night is nothing compared to the unrestrained and unparalleled attack by Satan that Jesus is going to endure

What will be the outcome of Satan’s attack on Jesus?

“He’s got nothing on Me!”

Heb 4:15

Satan loses...as always

The Lord is in complete control this night

v31 world may know that I love...do:

Jesus says He loves the Father

How do we know, what proof do we have?

He obeyed His Father's commandments/words/sayings (v15)

Is 53:10 as "prophesied" by Isaac in Gen 22, a prophesy that Jesus willingly came to be the Father's sin sacrifice for fallen man

Phil 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross

Proof of love is obedience and submission

Love and obedience and submission are interwoven

Arise, let us go hence:

The conversation in the upper room ends

Jesus and the 11 are now walking to the Garden of Gethsemane

The teaching/doctrine of Jesus will continue on the way (Ch 15-16)

As we go from here...

1. let the peace of God rule in your heart (Col 3:15)
2. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another (Rom 14:19)
3. Rom 15:13
4. Rom 15:33

That we may live at peace

- a. With God – faith/love/obedience/submission
- b. With others – preferring them above ourselves...Christ-likeness on display

Rather than be so engaged in our cell phones, may we engage the person standing next to us

They are looking for peace