

## 2 Peace Within

### The Struggle For Christmas That Led to Peace!

#### Sermon Series for Christmas 2017

**Colossians 3:15**

**December 10, 2017**

**Colossians 3:15** And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. (Col 3:15 ESV)

I. You are to be **Controlled** by Peace **(15)** And **let** the peace of Christ **rule** in your hearts,

A. **Having Peace Within is a Choice** we all must make. **(15)** And **let** the peace of Christ...

God has given Humanity the Ability to Choose!  
That includes your **Attitude!** You may be sitting here today saying **Whatever Pastor, Whatever!**  
And you would be exactly right!

**Philippians 4:8-9** Finally, brothers,

**whatever is true,**

**whatever is honorable,**

**whatever is just,**

**whatever is pure,**

**whatever is lovely,**

**whatever is commendable,** if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise,

**think about these things.** <sup>9</sup> What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—

**practice these things,** and the

**God of peace will be with you.**

**Eirene (Peace)** is a state of national tranquility, exemption from the **rage and havoc of war**. This Peace includes both the concept of an **Agreement**, pact, treaty, or bond, and that of an **Attitude** of Rest or Security! **Whatever, Right!**

Through Christ we have **Peace with God** which is an Agreement with God that He is no longer at war with us! **Romans 5:1** Therefore, since we have been **justified** by faith, we have **peace** with God **through** our Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom 5:1 ESV)

**John 14:6** Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except **through** Me. (Joh 14:6 CSB)

**Through** = **διά** (*dia*). **Diameter**

B. **Having Peace Within** is allowing the Peace of Christ to **Control** your Heart. **(15)** And let the peace of Christ **rule** in your hearts,

**What Controls you?** Fear, Anger, Bitterness, Worry, Stress, Greed, Pride!

By letting **Peace Rule** your Heart you will receive a great Benefit: **Philippians 4:7** And the peace of God, which surpasses every thought, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Phi 4:7 CSB)

II. **You are to be Controlled** by Peace because You are **Called** to Peace **(15)** to which indeed **you were called** in **one body**.

Peace is not only **Objective** and **Subjective**, but also **Relational**.

Believers are called to live in peace in one body.

The word for Called is translated as “to which **indeed** you were called”

You weren't just called to have peace for a moment. But you are called to **continually live** in peace!

Believers are to have Peace with Christ and in their own Hearts. This means we as Believers should always live in Unity and Harmony with each other!

**Jesus said in John 13:34-35** A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (Joh 13:34 ESV)

**Love leads to Unity and Harmony!** As in Musical Harmony which is the playing of Different Chords simultaneously to produce a beautiful sound, Human Harmony is the coming together of people who have different gifts working together to produce a beautiful ministry! **One Body!**

**Mark 3:25** And if a **house is divided** against itself, that house will not be able to stand. (Mar 3:25 ESV)

**1 Corinthians 1:10** I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to **live in harmony with each other**. Let there be **no divisions in the church**. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.

**III. The Key to finding** and Maintaining a Peaceful Heart You are to be **Continually** Thankful **(15)** And **be thankful**.

- A. **Being Continually Thankful** is an **Act of Worship**: **Colossians 3:16** Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. **Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.**
- B. **Gratitude is a Sign** of a True Believer **1 Thessalonians 5:18** give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1Th 5:18 ESV)

**Hebrews 13:15** So let's continually offer up a sacrifice of praise through him, which is the **fruit from our lips that confess his name.** (Heb 13:15 CEB)

- C. **Ingratitude Marks** The Unbeliever **Romans 1:21** Yes, they knew God, but **they wouldn't worship him as God** or even **give him thanks.** And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused.

A Spirit of **Humble Thankfulness** toward God will inevitably affect our relationships with others. Peace and Thankfulness are thus closely linked!

In the next verse **Colossians 3:16** Paul continues with **“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly”**

Peace & Thankfulness as well as Unity & Love flow from a mind controlled by Scripture. Dwell means to “Live in.” **To Dwell** in the Word of Christ is to Read the Word of Christ Daily!

**How to Have Peace Within?**

**Be Thankful while Living Out God’s Word!**

**Praise Team Takes The Platform**