

THE ANGEL'S SONG: PEACE

Our greatest need: peace ... shalom

For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named...**Prince of Peace**. Isaiah 9:6
Glory to God in the highest heaven, and **peace** on earth to people he favors!
Luke 2:14

The gift of peace

The first Christmas...a little messy Luke 2:1-7

- Messy time, people and place
- God shows up in the mess

God's gift of peace Luke 2:8-15

- Peace with God is available

Alienated from God

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death spread to all people, because all sinned.
Romans 5:12

Cost of peace:

Humility

"This will be the **sign** for you: You will find a **baby** wrapped tightly in cloth and lying in a manger." Luke 2:12

Sacrifice

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son...will we be saved by his life. Romans 5:1,10

Have you made peace with God?

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation. Romans 10:9-10

- Personal peace is possible...humility and sacrifice
"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful." John 14:27
- Living as peacemakers...humility and sacrifice
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God."
Matthew 5:9

Living in peace

And let the peace of Christ, to which you were also called in one body, rule your hearts. And be thankful. Colossians 3:15

Remember what we celebrate at Christmas

"This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
1 Corinthians 11:24

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:25

Reflection Questions:

What could you do to embrace the sacred celebration of Christmas?
Since we have peace with God, how could you experience more personal peace?

Scripture from the CSB unless noted.