

Sermon: Where to Find Peace
Series: *Peace on Earth*

Scripture: Isaiah 8:22-9:7
Date: December 13, 2020

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?

- a) Think through these questions in order to assess your own personal peace:
- Where has peace been absent in your life?
 - In what ways are you trying to exit the darkness rather than let in the light?
 - What temporary “lights” are you looking to in order to dispel your fears?
 - In what ways have you accepted peace as simply the absence of conflict, rather than the presence of wholeness and thriving (Shalom)? Even in your relationship with God??

2) What does this passage teach us about God?

a) We said that we all need peace, but we have no right to peace. Why did the nation of Judah have no right to God’s peace/shalom? Look at Isaiah 1:10,17; 8:12; 8:19; 8:21. What can we learn from this?

b) And yet God promised them his peace (9:1-7). What does this teach us about our God?

3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Jesus will first be our savior (first advent) and then he will be our problem solver (second advent). How does Isaiah 9:1-7 point to Jesus as both our savior and our problem solver?

b) Read Isaiah 53:5. How does Christ provide true peace with God and the peace of God?

c) Jesus is called our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Which of these encourages your heart today? Are you able to connect these names of Christ back to what he has done on the cross for you?

APPLICATION

a) When we have the peace of Christ ruling our hearts (Col. 3:15) we can begin to see our “problems” not as problems to solve, but as opportunities to trust our Savior and love others. Where can you apply this truth to your life this week?

FIGHTER VERSES: Isaiah 9:2-7.

PRAYER

Worship God/Christ as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. Confess ways that you have demanded peace from God even though we don’t deserve it. Ask God to allow you to see how your problems can lead to faith and love.