

THE BLISS OF THE BREAKER- DOWN OF BARRIERS

Matthew 5:9

INTRODUCTION

- ✘ Peace-loving and peace-making
- ✘ today's news headlines
- ✘ cessation of violence not peace
- ✘ ring of treason to it
- ✘ Old Testament concept of *shalom*

PEACE FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

- × Peace offerings
- × covenant-based reality
- × “Blessed” Life of the Psalms
- × Prophetic anticipation

PEACE IN THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

- ✘ Inner peace with one's practice of righteousness, **5:20**
- ✘ Proper handling of anger & reconciliation, **5:21-26** (See III. D. below)
- ✘ Inner peace regarding temptations of the heart, **5:27-30**.
- ✘ Peace regarding marital relationships, **5:31-32**.

PEACE IN THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

- ✘ Peace with our communication, **5:33-37.**
- ✘ No retaliation and going the second mile, **5:38-42.**
- ✘ Loving one's enemy, **5:43-48**—this may be the foundational aspect of what it means to be *teleios* as your heavenly Father is *teleios*.

PEACE IN THE SERMON

ON THE MOUNT

- ✘ *Shalom* with regard to giving, prayer & fasting, **6:1-18**
- ✘ Peace regarding money and material things, **6:19-24.**
- ✘ Peace instead of worrying about life, **6:25-34.**
- ✘ Peace regarding the imperfections of others, **7:1-6.**

GOSPEL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- ✘ **Matthew 10:13**
- ✘ *“Personal peace is pursued without concern for the world’s chaos”*
- ✘ **Matthew 10:34-36** Not peace but a sword
- ✘ Peace in the body of Christ—Matthew **18:15-20.**

GOSPEL & HISTORICAL

BACKGROUND

- ✘ Jesus brings peace in times of storm, demon-possessed, and paralyzed man= **8:23-9:8**
- ✘ Jesus promises rest, **11:28-30**, notice immediate context of Jesus denouncing the cities (**11:20-27**).
- ✘ Jesus provides calm in the time of fear (walking on the water), **14:22-32**.

PEACE IN THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

- ✘ Peace with the Golden Rule, **7:12**
- ✘ Peace on the road to life, **7:13-14**
- ✘ Peace in regard to false prophets, **7:15-20.**
- ✘ Peace regarding how we build the foundation of our life, **7:21-27.**

THE NEW TESTAMENT

(JOHN'S GOSPEL)

- ✘ **John 14:27**—Peace I leave with you;
- ✘ **John 16:33**—Take heart...I have overcome the world
- ✘ **John 20:19, 21, 26**—Peace be with you
- ✘ Note: “grace, mercy and peace” in Paul’s salutations of his letters!

IDENTITY AS “ SONS OF GOD”

- ✘ **Something about peacemaking is so fundamental to the nature of God that being a part of that becomes part of our identity being called children of God.**
- ✘ **Think of this contrast: children naturally think of self and fight. Children of God naturally think of others and bring about peace!**

IDENTITY AS “SONS OF GOD”

- ✘ Inclusive term for children of God.
- ✘ “Sons of God” children of God in Judaism refers to Israel as God’s children (see Exodus 4:22).
- ✘ Sons of God identical to “saints” or called out for God.
- ✘ Sons of God also points to familial relationship with God.