



A study of 1 Thessalonians 5

Message: Live In Peace!

1 Thessalonians 5:13

In Christ, we experience peace with God. Romans 5:1 tells us; *Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

But how do we live in peace considering there is a battle for souls and a spiritual battle every day? What did Paul mean in 1 Thessalonians 5:13b; *Live in peace with each other.*

First, Paul is addressing believers to live in peace with each other and with church leaders. As a body of Christ, we have a responsibility to live in peace with one another. The church has a great mission to complete and the last thing we want to do is get caught up into disagreements and conflicts which can take our focus, time and energy away from working on God's mission of redeeming people.

Therefore let us strive to live in peace personally and in our relationships with each other.

Romans 12:18, *If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*

Why we should live in peace:

1) Peace was God's plan from the very beginning of creation.

Psalm 29:11; *The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.* Psalm 34:14; *Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.* Psalm 37:11; *But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.* Psalm 37:37; *Consider the blameless, observe the upright; a future awaits those who seek peace.*

2) Jesus came to bring peace and calls us to be a people of peace.

Matthew 5:9; *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

Our salvation was purchased by Jesus at a huge cost so that we could have peace. To simply answer why should we live in peace. We are children of God, purchased by blood and called to live in peace.

James 3:18; *Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.*



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How we should live in peace:

1) Find inner-peace with the Holy Spirit.

Romans 6:22 says; *But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.*

Romans 8:6; *The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.*

2) Flee from those things that bind us and seek to live at peace with other. Peace means fighting daily.

God created peace. Jesus died so we can have peace. Inner-peace comes when we release control of our lives to God, let the indwelling of the Holy Spirit give us peace. Thus having peace within ourselves transfers to living peacefully with other believers and that transfers to living in peace with everyone else.

Living in peace is a daily battle, so where is the peace?

Peace is not the result of the absent of conflicts and disagreements but the positive achievement of mutual respect between people. A respect that comes from being God's creation.

Peace is not the result of the absent of Satan's attacks and temptations, but claimed victory that came from Jesus' death and resurrection and our faith in Him.

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