

Title: Why Are You Fighting It?

Text Matthew 5:9

Take your Bibles, please, and turn to Matthew chapter 5. We come to the 7th beatitude. Matthew chapter 5 verse 9. "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called ~~sons~~ of God." Or, to translate correctly: "Blessed, the peacemakers, because they themselves shall be called sons of God."

LET'S LOOK TO THE LORD IN PRAYER

Again, remember, the position of the believer is called "blessed." Then there is a practice which should characterize you. And this practice results in a wonderful promise.

We have come to the area of the beatitudes which involves our practical application. An application which should be true in our lives. ~~to~~ ^{when we} started our study, we saw that we should be "poor in spirit." We saw, also, the need to hunger and thirst after THE righteousness. And of course "THE RIGHTEOUSNESS" is Jesus. And if we hunger and thirst after Jesus we shall ^{Then} be satisfied. And then we started applying our position. For example: Blessed the ones showing mercy for they shall be the ones who will receive mercy. Blessed the person who is clean, for he is the one who shall see God. And now, Blessed the peacemakers, for they shall be the ones who are called sons of God..

(1B) In this beatitude there are three important words that I would like to draw to your attention. Three important words.

(1C) The first word is the word "peace." I don't think there is a word, with the exception of "love" or "faith" that is so easily thrown around, and yet, so misunderstood. You can read "peace" on a sign as someone is demonstrating. You can see it written on homes at Christmas time, ~~with~~ ~~other~~ ~~signs~~. You can see it on the back of cars. And someone might flash you the peace sign. And it seems that everybody wants "peace." But very few people understand it. It is much like the word "love" or the word "faith." So easy when it comes out of our mouth, but so hard to really experience it.

The very word used by Jews to greet one another, SHALAM, the Hebrew word for "peace" expresses all that is the hope of that nation. Every time the word is expressed there is an inward hope that "peace" would be established in the world. ~~It was done early in the~~

It was the early Christians who greeted one another with "grace and peace" from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. ~~It was done early in the~~

Like Siamese twins they indicate God's work in us: Grace and Peace.

The word "peace" comes from a root word meaning "to ^{blind} bind together". And the basic idea is of harmony or balance. The entire life of an individual ~~in balance~~ who is at peace is "balance".

Now, There are many people who can have a "measure" of "peace", let's say "emotionally." Because they either have those inward ~~traits~~ traits, ~~or~~ they were born that way or they acquired them through discipline. But, that does not mean that they have God's "peace".

God's peace means that a person, mentally, emotionally, spiritually, is in balance. That all of his life is in a beautiful relationship.

For example: our word "sym'phony" carries the idea of "peace".

Everything blinding together. One horn ~~sitting~~ sounding out above all others is not "peace". But the entire orchestra playing together is... Everything working together ^{Blinding Together} is peace.

out A huge machine may have one part that is very effective, but all the parts of that machine must work together for it to be in balance and peace.

That is the idea of the word "peace". And I hope you will keep that in mind as we study.

(2) Now, the Bible says: "blessed are the peacemakers". Those who actually make harmony and balance in peoples ^{lives} life. And the word "make"

This word ~~to me~~ is interesting because it carries in the Greek the idea of "practice". And it deals with the method ^{of practice} of accuring "peace." So, we are talking about somebody who by way of effectiveness, the result of what they do, is harmony. We are talking about people who really produce. People who in their lives produce harmony, a blinding together *in their life as well as in the help of others*

(3) Now, the third word that I want you to notice is the phrase "sons of God." ^{Referring To Christ's Birth} This is not referring to your spiritual birth. But rather to your position. ^{Therefore Two Greek Words Translated "Son" in the NT.}

^{The First} ~~The~~ Greek word ^{is} "teknon" meaning "little born one" or "child" is used for example in John 1:12 where it says: "As many as received him to them he gave the power or right to become the children or the sons of God.".....And this ^{means} "born ones". You are born of the spirit of God. Therefore, you are a child of God and you are in God's family. ^{But} That is not the word used here in Matthew 5:9.

By the way, the word "teknon" is never used of Jesus Christ. ..Never... Not once..People ask: "Well, if Jesus is God, How can he be the son of God?" Jesus is never called ~~the~~ "teknon"..the born one of God....Never...Never so used..... ^{Position - "I" and the Father are - John 1:1}

^{Now, the second} ~~the~~ Greek word "huios"(we'ous) translated " son" refers to position. It was used of a slave in a man's home who was loved so much that he was adopted ^{as a son} into that home. He was called "huios"....You have all my inheritance and all that I own by way of a position which I have legally actured for you.

^{and} So, also, we are sons of God by adoption says the Bible. We have been adopted as sons .."huios"^{also are}...We born as children of God because we are in the family of God by spiritual birth.

So, in this beatitude we ^{are} called sons"..^{HUIOS}Those who have this position in christ is the fact that they are makers of peace.

^{Phases} Now, you can run away from that by saying, "Well, I am not grifted enough^{to} to make peace where I go." In fact, as people know you, ^{they} might decide that you are one who creates problems and starts strife. ^{may}

But, listen, the quality of one who is a son of God, that which really characterizes him ^{is} is that he makes peace where every he goes. He brings harmony, he brings a perfect blinding together of balance into a persons life ^{or into a situation, or church Vs meeting, or home problem.}

~~... I will be able to get it, maybe I will use one word through~~

HUIOS

Our Lord, it is said, in Colassions 1, make peace, same word, through the blood of his cross, by which he brought many who were afar off, into a oneness with those who were ~~there~~. *There.*

In Ephesians 2, it says that he is our peace having broken down the middle wall between Jew and Gentle and he blinded together both into one body. Peace is blinding together, binding together into perfect harmony.

And I wonder, what kind of balance and harmony and blinding together are we making in ~~the world~~ *our world*?....The Bible says it is a characteristic of one who is a son of God..... ~~who is a christian~~ *who is a christian*

So, this gives us some idea of the words that are used in our text.

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(2B)

Now, to really understand "peace" I believe it is important to know what it is not...WHAT "PEACE" IS NOT.....

(1C) "Peacae" is not running away from your problems- And yet, a lot of people want to accure "peace" in that way. I know, I talk to them and so do you....And all of us are quilty, one time or another, we have problems we have testing, or we have something that comes into our life and we decide that the best way is to run away and hide.

out

We may hide by isolation, we may hide by simple ignoring the problem, or we may hide by never coming into touch with the problem.....Or we may hide by refusing to make a decision when we are face to face with the problem.

You cannot run away from problems and have "peace".....And yet, the world wants to do that. They want to run away and get away from all the problems hoping that some how, in some way, they will have peace and rest.

L You will not have it, my friend, never. ~~and~~ you will try to run away.

We all do. Christians try to run away. We don't like testing and problems

✓ The best way to aviod that, by the way, is to be spectator most of the time. That is the way to avoid problems. And that is the road that many christians choose. They ~~will~~ *will* deciedd rahter than to be involved, in order to have a little peace and rest, they will not be involved for Christ.

Amen

We will set and listen, but that is as far as we will go. Listen, You can run away from the Christian conflict, you can run away from the real battlefield, you can run away from the real involvement that God wants from every believer, by simplyly seating their and doing nothing later.

We do run away from our problems. We do it all the time. We run away from testing and trils. And conflicts, we don't want anything to do with it. Listen, God's "peace" is not the absence of war and conflict. There isn't some little world that Christians can live in and avoid the conflicts of life. That is not Gos's peace at all.

And yet, that is what a lot of Christians believe. It is not Biblical, but they believe that false doctrine. And they believe that the absence of testing and conflicts in life is "peace."

Listen, God's peace comes in the midst of conflict. It comes to carry you through the test. Peace is like the artist who drew a bird setting in a nest with a storm blowing all around it and a wild mountain lion trying to reach the nest, yet, in the miast of all of that the bird is singing. That is peace. - Amen

Peace is not the absence of conflict and testing and problems.

(2) ^{also} ~~But~~, unfortatly, a lot of Christians believe that "peace" is compromise.

We compromise with a lot of issues. We see different viewpoints and we do not want to take a stand, therefore, we compromise.

And so the Christian is standing there, somehow, with both the world and the church and he hopes that by compromising with the world he will have "peace".....Let's don't create to much trouble.....But the Bible say that if the world hates Jesus, you can count on it, that it will hate you also.....If they persecuted Jesus, the Bible says, the unbeliever will persecute you. PEACE IS NOT COMPROMISE.

I find that ~~most~~ ^{many} Christians in a moment of need when they should give a testimony for Christ, whether it be in the midst of ungodly people who are tearing Jesus apart by their vocabulary, or whether it is tolerating evil, either in ourselves or in someone else, we have compromised because we want "peace." - ~~Peace~~ *Peace is not compromise*

Now, the world does want peace. And all of us want a little quite and rest. Some of us would like our partners to stop talking for a while, and then we would have peace. Oh, no we wouldn't.

We have the idea that as long as things stop that seem to bother us that some how peace will come into your life. ~~██████████~~

God's peace is not ~~part~~ part of our nature. We don't have it. Just like we don't have "love". We like we don't have real "joy."

Now, we try. We have all kinds of substitutes. But it willn't work.

(3) Also, peace is not the enjoyment of missed pleasures... You know, the world is programing us to think that a little peace and a little rest and a little contentment involves a time in our life when we finally arrive at the home that we want, the pool we want, the car we want, and the easy chair we want to set back and enjoy what we have missed, quote, all of our life.

That is not "peace"...There are alot of sad people living in what is called "leisure world".

You cannot run away from problems. You can not compromise and tolerate evil. You cannot have the absence of war and strife. And you cannot get everything the world can give you and still conclude that you will have "peace", Because God's peace is ~~not~~ not like that at all. You and I both know that. - *Amen*

But, how we need a remainder, everyday of our life, that ~~the~~ world is programing us to these kinds of "peace." And this is not God's peace.

Now You ~~see~~ the Bible teaches that "peace" is in Jesus. God's peace is in Jesus. And I would like to share, now, the facts of God's peace.

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~~Is~~ And the ~~best~~ thing we must get into our minds in understanding God's peace is that God's peace is diffeent from the Worlds kind. The worlds/~~kind~~/ cannot equal God's peace. It cannot. Just put it down. It is wrong. You cannot learn about God's peace without going to the Bible. There isn't any truth about "peace" that isn't in the Word. Because God's word is truth. AND The Truth Will Set You Free - ~~And there isn't any truth apart from God's Word.~~

So, stop trying to discovery peace from somebody else or some worldly thing. Peace is found in God's word.

And the Bible says that the "peace of God" is different from the world's point of view. Now, what is God's Peace

(1c) I would like you to turn to ~~4~~ 5 passages. (1) First, John ~~14~~ 14:27. We read: "Peace I leave with you." In the context, Vs 26, Jesus is dealing with the comforter who is the Holy Spirit. In what sense could Jesus who was leaving the world with all of its trouble and problems, it what sense could ~~he~~ Jesus have said to them: "My peace I leave with you."

The answer is: in the person of the Holy Spirit..the comforter^{1/2} My peace I give unto you. Notice: it belongs to him. "not as the world giveth do I give unto you." Christ will not give you peace like the world gives. "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

And I learn right away that the ~~thing~~ attitude which is involved in the worlds kind of "peace" is fear....

you see, You may set down at a table with the leaders of the world and sign a peace treaty, And as you know, so many of them throughout history have been broken it gets rediculous. But, you may sign "peace". Yet, both sides live in fear that some how or some day the conflict will start again.

~~But~~ That is not peace that God gives.

Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. The absence of fear.....WHY?.....Because the Holy Spirit is ministering in your heart and produceing the peace and comfort that only He can give. And that is a wonderful thing to experience. —

That is God's Peace - Absence of Fear

(2) Turn over to 2 Timothy chapter 1:7, please.....2 Tim 1:7....A wonderful verse. Paul wrote to Timothy and said: "For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and love and of a sound mind."

Notice, God is not given us the spirit of fear. There is an absence of fear when you have the "peace of God".

But, he has given us power, love and a sound mind.

Do you know what a sound mind really is?....A sound mind is when a life is in balance.....When everything is functioning properly, you have "peace". Everything is bound together. You have perfect balance. There is the absence of fear. No fear at all. Jesus said: "let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. No need to be afraid."

But, also...
3) But

The basic ingredient of peace is found over in Colossians chapter 1. Would you turn there, please. Even though God's peace is different from the worlds, it is important to understand that God's peace is transaction on His part not ours. Which solves a problem on our part, not His. You see, God did something about the ~~anger~~ ^{anger} and the bitterness that we have had towards God, which we constantly demonstrate by sinning against him. And so a transaction called "~~reconciliation~~ ^{reconciliation}" was accomplished. "To reconcile" means "to restore back to a former condition."

You see, before man sinned, his condition was perfect peace. His life was in perfect balance and harmony before he sinned. 6

Now, when God reconciled the world he put man back into that condition that he existed in before the fall. And that is what reconciliation is. ^{about} God puts us back into the condition of response as Adam to God before the fall.....Beautiful fellowship with Him on a personal bases. ^{and that is} ~~the~~ ^{His} ~~peace~~

Now, that transaction was on God's part. We had nothing to do with it. But, the one at fault was man, not God. That is what reconciliation is...

Colossians chapter 1, please, vers 29: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

"For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fulness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace". And that is the same word translated "peacemakers" in the beatitude.

"Having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven. And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach.

What a tremendous promise. Now, how has ~~He~~ made "peace"? . . . He has made "peace" through His blood on the cross. In other words, no person can have harmony in his life by ignoring the cross. The whole foundation of peace as to why we have it or why we do not, ^{in our LIFE} centers in the cross of Jesus Christ. The cross is where you find peace

Turn to the book of Ephesians, please. Ephesians chapter 2 verse 13. (READ VS 13) There are those who were formerly far away from Jesus Christ. These are the Gentiles. And there are folks who are near and they are the Jews. But these two groups are brought near unto God by the blood of Christ. That is the message of Vs 13

Now, Vs 14. . . "For He Himself is our peace" So if someone ask you? "WHAT IS PEACE?" The answer is Jesus. He is our peace. He is our binding together. "who made both groups into one"

You see, there is a play on that word "peace". Peace means to bind together. And Christ made both Jew and Gentle "ONE" . . . He bound them together. RESULT There is peace.

I was talking with a fellow the other day who didn't believe in Jesus. And he was telling me how hard he was working towards peace. And how he prayed and was hoping that somehow his children will live in peace. And I said: "that is wonderful, but peace isn't going to come until Jesus comes into your life."

My friends, it isn't going to come. Jesus said there will be wars and rumors of wars. So, who is going to bring peace. Jesus will bring peace. Where does peace lie? In Jesus. How do you get peace in your heart? By believing in Jesus....Who is going to keep your hearts and mind in these days of **tem**moil? The peace of God will **keep** your hearts and minds. How do I enjoy peace, right now? By accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour. You see, it is Jesus living in you who will give you peace in the midst of trouble. We are in the world, but not of it. What does that mean? It means living in a troubled world under the control of the Holy Spirit, the comfortor. Thus, there is perfect balance, harmony. A balanced person. Everything is in harmony...WHY?....Because you have received Christ as Lord and Saviour and thus the peace of God is now living in your life.

LET US CLOSE IN PRAYER