

# **Matthew 5:9**

September 9, 2018 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Jesus: "If you only knew... what would bring you peace." (**Luke 19:42**)

**James 4:1-4:** “What causes fights and quarrels *among you*? Don’t they come from your desires that *battle within you*? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an *enemy of God*.”

*People are in conflict with each other because they're in conflict with themselves. And people are in conflict with themselves because they're in conflict with God.*

Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace. (**2 Thessalonians 3:16**)

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## **1. Peace with God.**

**Romans 5:10** - While we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son.

**Colossians 1:20** - Christ *made peace* by the blood of His cross.

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## **2. Peace within.**

**Philippians 4:6-9** - Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by *prayer* and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the *peace of God*, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—*think* on these things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me, *put into practice*. And the God of peace will be with you.

- 1) If you want peace within--you need to pray.**
  - 2) If you want peace within--you need to think right.**
  - 3) If you want peace within you need to live right.**
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## **3. Peace with others.**

- 1) The Peace faker**
- 2) The Peace taker**

**Prov. 16:28** - A troublemaker stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends.

**Proverbs 26:17-21** - Like one who grabs a dog by the ears is someone who *meddles* in a quarrel not his own. Like a maniac shooting flaming arrows of death is one who deceives their neighbor and says, "I was only joking!"

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Without wood, a fire goes out; without gossip, a conflict ceases. As charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome person for kindling strife.

**Proverbs 26:27** - If you set a trap for others, you'll get caught in it yourself. If you roll a boulder down on others, it'll roll back and crush you instead.

### **3. The Peace maker**

#### **#1 - You can choose to overlook the offense.**

**Proverbs 19:11** - A wise person is patient, it is to one's glory to overlook an offense.

**Psalms 103:8-10** - The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He won't always accuse us... He doesn't treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

#### **#2 - Pursue peace**

**Hebrews 12:14** - Pursue peace with all men.

**Proverbs 15:1** - A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

**Ephesians 4:29** - Let no abusive language come out of your mouths, but only what is good for building up the one in need, that it may give grace.

**Warren Wiersbe:** *Hatred can never be conquered with hatred. Only love can conquer hatred. And when love declares war on hatred, the battle is always a difficult one. Love challenges the enemy to be a better person, and this love often makes the conflict worse because no one wants to admit that he or she is less than the enemy. As you and I seek to be peacemakers, people will treat us as they did Jesus. They will misunderstand us and not honestly seek for the truth. They will criticize us and accuse us. The person of war throws stones, and the peacemaker builds a bridge out of those stones. Peacemakers don't avoid the battle; instead they transform the battle into a ministry of reconciliation.*

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