

SHALOM

isaiah 9:6-7



SYNOPSIS

This past Sunday, Pastor Phil preached on the multi-faceted peace that Jesus has come to institute for now into eternity. Biblical peace is so much more than just the absence of conflict. It represents wholeness, where there is a sense of completeness. It represents restoration, restitution, the righting of what is wrong. It represents peace and safety that we can experience in the presence of God. Peace is something that we all long for. And though we don't see it fully here, we have hope in the Kingdom of God that will bring the fullness of peace under the rule and reign of Jesus.

What does it look like for us as we pursue this peace (shalom) in our different relationships? In our relationship with God, we just have to receive it. Jesus paved the way for us so that we could experience peace with God. In our relationship with the Body of Christ, we have to work at it. We have to let go of bitterness and offense and actually strive towards unity under the bond of peace. In our relationship with our city and our communities, we have to intentionally work towards the 'shalom' of the city.

We eagerly await the day for the Kingdom of Peace that is coming, but until then, let's work towards the Biblical Peace (Shalom) that God has given for the here and now.



OUTLINE

1 SHALOM: MULTIFACETED IMPLICATIONS

Wholeness - Shalom can be described as complete, whole, without crack or breach. We can experience a wholeness when we experience shalom and this also floods into our relationships.

Restoration/Restitution - Shalom requires a righting of what is wrong. Justice intermingles with peace - without experience of justice, it is difficult to experience peace.

Rest/Safety - The other-worldly inner peace that is given by God transcends our external circumstances so that we are able to enter into His rest even while storms rage all around us.

2 PURSUING SHALOM IN RELATIONSHIPS

Between us and God - We have received the grace of God in that Jesus came to restore the breach in our relationship with God. He has come to bring wholeness and restoration and has paid the high cost so that we can be reconciled.

Between the Body of Christ - We must make every effort to seek reconciliation and wholeness within the Body of Christ to witness the beauty of the Church moving together in step with what God is doing.

Seeking the "shalom of our city" - We are called to engage in the brokenness of our communities, to seek wholeness, restoration, and human flourishing in the public square. This may be difficult, but is one of the church's calling.



kairos church



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

When was the last time you felt the most at peace? Can you share what that feeling was like?

2

Do we regularly experience the peace of God in our lives? If not, why do you think that is the case?

3

Are there relationships in our lives that may have conflicts/are broken that God is asking us to begin restoring?

4

Where are areas that you see God working in and how can your heart expand for your community and San Diego as you seek the shalom of the city?

5

Let's think of one person in our lives that may be going through a trying time and pray that the peace of God would minister to them at this time.



BIG IDEA

The peace that Jesus has come to give us is different than that of the world. He came to pay the high price so that we could be reconciled to God, so that we can experience wholeness in our relationship with God and see it translate into our relationship with the body of Christ and the city/community around us. May we be heralds of this "otherworldly" peace that will one day be the standard for all of eternity.