

LIVE IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED is designed to give believers the doctrinal tools to cope with the world-wide Covid-19 crisis.

This series of studies, “Let not your heart be troubled” comes from Jesus teaching His disciples about dealing with crisis during the Upper room Discourse of the Last Supper.

But unfortunately, it caused their hearts to become troubled and fearful (John 14:1, 27).

Then Jesus gave them the spiritual solution to a Troubled and Fearful Heart:

(John 14:27) “Peace I leave with you; **My peace I give to you; not as the world gives to you do, I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled nor let your heart be fearful.**”

NOTE: In our last study, we gave Jesus’ antidote to a troubled and fearful heart which was **THE PEACE OF CHRIST**.

This lesson will study three aspects of Living the Peace of Christ in our daily lives and especially during a time of crisis.

1. The context of our lesson text is (1 Thess.5:12-28)

Greek textual background:

- “Live in Peace” is the first of sixteen present imperatives. (1 Thess. 5:13-25).
- The seventeenth imperative is an aorist (1 Thess. 5:26) [Greet/ a.m.imv.2pl].

In the context, Paul issued seventeen commands for the spiritually advancing believer to cope with whatever crisis he / she might face.

Here we are studying **how to “Live in peace** (eireneu/ p.a.impv.2pl) [command] **with one another”** as a coping device / mechanism (1 Thess.5:13b).

- Read this list of seventeen imperatives for your ministry opportunities during this and/ or another crisis.

2. All Three Members of the Godhead are involved in Spiritual Peace (eirene).

Eirene is the inner tranquility of freedom from stress surrounding a crisis, or the crisis itself.

- **God the Father is the origin of spiritual peace.**
 - (1 Thess.5:23) “Now may the **God of peace Himself** sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- **God the Son is the salvation source of God’s peace in our spirit, soul, and body.**
 - (Rom.5:1) “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have **peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.**”

- **God the Holy Spirit** is the functional source of the Peace of Christ in the Christian way of life.
 - (Rom.8:6) “The mind set on the flesh is death, but the **mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.**”
(Gal.5:16-17, 22-23) (Phil.4:6-7) [Power of Prayer] (Rom.8:26-28)

3. The peace of God is offered to every fallen member of the human race on the bases of faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

- **The angel of the Lord’s message to Israel through Bethlehem:**

(Luke 2:11) “For today in the city of David there has been **born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.**”

- **The angelic heavenly choir sang this message at the birth of Jesus Christ to the Bethlehem temple shepherds.**

(Luke 2:14) “**Glory to God in highest, and on earth PEACE among men with whom He (God) is well-pleased.**”

- **The Apostle Paul’s thoughts and words of encouragement to the Unbeliever under stress:**

(1 Cor.15:1-4) “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I have also received, that **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures (Isa.53:5), and that He buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures**” (Ps.16:10; Ps.49:15; Acts2:31).

(Rom.1:16) “For I am not ashamed of the **gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes,** to the Jew first, and also to the Greeks.”

(Eph.2:8-9) “For **by grace you have been saved through faith;** and that **not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as the result of works, so that no one may boast.**”

- **Your assurance of your salvation** comes from believing the truth of the word of God say about it.

(John 20:31) “But these have been written so that you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and **that believing you may have life (eternal) in His name.**”