

THE PRINCE OF PEACE

Isaiah 9:6,7

“6For unto us Child is born, unto us Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, **The Prince of Peace**.
7Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of The LORD of hosts will perform this” (Isa. 9:6,7).

The Translation of The Septuagint Rendering of The Old Testament

“6Since unto-us Educable-Child [aor. pass.]was-being-begotten, unto-us Son [aor. pass.]was-given: the principality of-Whom became upon the shoulder of-His: and the name of-His is-being-called Messenger-of-Great Counsel, for I-shall-bring peace upon the rulers[magistrates] and health to-Him. 7The principality of-His great![nom.of excl.] and to-the Peace of-His there-is no limit; upon the throne of-David and The Kingdom of-His, to-set-straight and to-establish [loc. &v]in-judgment and [loc. &v]in-righteousness from the now even /forever. The zeal of-The LORD of-Hosts shall-do this” (Isa. 9:6,7 LXX APT).

Part 1

Introduction:

How do you reckon that it has been so difficult so long for Israel to have true peace with the surrounding nations? And why has there been so much overt and covert enmity and outright war between all the nations throughout the world even after so many attempts to achieve peace through peace treaties? And what is the **only** solution to true world peace internationally and true personal peace within individually?

The theme of President Dwight Eisenhower’s Inaugural address in 1953 was ‘world peace.’ He wanted to bring world peace. He failed miserably! Why? Firstly, because he put the cart before the horse. World peace cannot come to pass before the inhabitants of the world experience personal peace with The God first and then become at peace with other individuals who are at peace with The Godhead or The Trinity: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit. Secondly, he failed because true world peace can only be found in one Person alone, The Prince of Peace who alone brings humans to peace with The God! And then and only then when humans are truly at Peace with The God can there be lasting perfect peace with other humans. And thirdly, because true individual peace can only be experienced by learning to be completely obedient to The Prince of Peace and obedient to all that His Word teaches and informs us concerning our conduct of life.

Today we begin a study of the six aspects about The Lord Jesus Christ as **The Prince of Peace**, one of the nearly five hundred names, titles, and offices found in Scripture which designate Him.

In the beginning of time during the first six days of the first week, The LORD God, His Son Jesus Christ, and The Holy Spirit together created the universe, the perfect world, and all the creatures, especially the people to live upon it. On the sixth day after creation (1 A.C. or 4,146 B.C.), The Godhead created the man and from him the woman. They were created with and experienced perfect peace with The Trinity or The Triune God in The Garden of Eden. They were without Sin in perfect fellowship with The Godhead. The Godhead created all this plus the means whereby they were to live in harmony and peace upon the Earth, produce offspring, and care for the Earth. Every thing that The Godhead created was very good (Gen. 1:1-31).

The LORD God put the first man and woman, Adam and Eve into the Garden that He had prepared for them. Then He gave Adam one com-

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mandment to persistently keep. He said, “Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die” (Gen. 2:16,17). At first they were obedient to the commandment and enjoyed perfect undisturbed peace and daily fellowship with The Godhead which is The Triune God, God The Father, God The Son, and God The Holy Spirit (Gen. 3:8-11). But disobedience in partaking of the forbidden fruit on their part brought immediate, painful separation.

Because of this initial disobedience by this first man urged by the woman and instigated by Satan, that perfect peace and fellowship between The LORD God, The Creator and themselves and all creation was radically disturbed and ended at once. They found themselves alienated from The LORD God by their Sin of disobedience, which resulted in persistent enmity between The God and all humans and Satan. The LORD God pronounced a curse upon the serpent, the woman, the ground, and a curse of sorrow and hard labor upon the man. But He promised Satan that the woman’s seed (later identified as The Christ in New Testament Scripture) shall bruise Satan’s head and he shall bruise The Seed’s heel (Gen. 3:14-19).

The peace they previously experienced was broken and ended. A barrier was raised and a wall of separation was erected between humans and The God. The naked, sinful couple were clothed with animal skins of sheep or goats (cf. Heb. 9:12,13) that The God in His grace sacrificed to obtain the blood, provide clothing for the naked couple and restored temporary fellowship from a distance between them.

In the following years The God promised Abraham that his Seed (Rom. 4:16) who was also the Seed of the woman (Gen. 3:15), is Christ (Gal. 3:16). But because of repeated disobedience of the nation of Israel and her people for many years, Israel has suffered repeated wars, oppression, bondage to other nations, and (in recent years since becoming a recognized nation again in 1948 A.D.) a constant battling ground of aggression and the granting of concessions to her enemies.

About 3,415 years later in c. 712 B.C., The God spoke through His Messianic prophet, Isaiah to the nation of Israel, His special people. Isaiah completed the record in his Scroll or Book, which has been preserved by that nation even to our generation. In that prophetic Book he recorded the passage of Scripture text upon which this series of Lessons is taken (Isa. 9:6,7 quoted above from the original Hebrew and A Precise Translation of The Septuagint, The Greek Translation of The Hebrew by 70 or 72 devout Israeli scribes).

Then after another c. 706 years later, The Prince of Peace, who came to provide a permanent, intimate relationship in close fellowship for and with obedient, trusting humans, who appropriate and identify with His shed-blood sacrifice, receive redemption, and wear the Garments of Salvation that He provided. This above mentioned expanded meaning of peace specifically applies to The Prince of Peace The Lord Jesus Christ, Who is the originator, captain, and author of peace.

There are six facts to be considered concerning The Prince of Peace: **I. What is Peace; II. Who The Prince of Peace Is; III. What He Came To Do; IV. When He Came; V. Where He Now Is; VI. When He Comes Again.**

I. What Is Peace?

There are two ways to define ‘peace’: the dictionary definition and the Scriptural meaning. The dictionary defines peace as “a state of quiet, calmness, serenity, or tranquility; freedom from disturbance or war; and without agitation.” This meaning has three aspects: a personal aspect

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individually within each human and with others; an impersonal aspect involving inanimate matter such as wind, water, and earth; and a national or international aspect within or between nations. The Scriptural meaning carries the dictionary meaning plus the additional thought of ‘setting at one again’ with the result being ‘reconciliation of enemies.’ Since the title ‘The Prince of Peace’ is Scriptural, it is expected that the Scriptural meaning is always intended in doctrinal explanation and teaching.

In Old Testament Scripture the noun translated ‘peace’ is **shalom** {shaw-lome’} or **shalom** {shaw-lome’} which means “‘peace, friendship, completeness, soundness, and/or welfare.” In the New Testament Scripture the noun translated ‘peace’ is **εἰρήνη** {eh-eeráyay} which means “‘peace, rest, quietness, rational tranquillity, plus the additional concept of ‘setting at one again’ with the result being ‘reconciliation of enemies.’ Thus we must keep in mind the full significance of the noun ‘Peace’ when it is used in reference to The Lord Jesus Christ and the Peace that is connected with and obtained from Him. The kind of Peace that The Lord Jesus Christ proffers is perfect, persistent, prevailing peace that surpasses all comprehension (Phil. 4 7 APT) and results in forgiveness of sins and redemption (Eph. 1:7 APT), uniting sinners once separated from The God to reconciliation (Col. 1:20,21 APT) and to union with The Godhead, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Jn. 17:21-23; Eph. 2:13 APT, please look up and read!). Peace is a very costly product, the price of which no ordinary human being can pay for oneself, let alone for others!

II. Who The Prince of Peace Is.

There are six aspects depicting The Prince of Peace: A. The Person of Peace; B. The Possessor of Peace; C. The Personification of Peace; D. The Producer of Peace; E. The Procurer of Peace; F. The Proclaimer of Peace; and G. The Perpetuator of Peace.

A. The Person of Peace

There are two Greek nouns translated ‘prince’ in The New Testament. One is **ἄρχων** (arkhōn) meaning ‘ruler’ used to refer to the Devil or to humans. The other Greek noun is used to refer only to The Lord Jesus Christ as ‘Prince,’ ‘captain,’ or ‘author’ (AV) translated as ‘Originator’ (APT). This noun is **ἀρχηγός** (ar-khay-góhs) which means ‘originator, chief military leader.’ Both meanings are applicable to The Lord Jesus Christ who fulfills all these aforementioned offices.

We shall carefully examine the full significance of the name and title given by The Father to The Lord Jesus Christ c. 726 years before He was born, c. two thousand and seventeen years ago. **The Prince of Peace** was the last of five names foretold in this prophecy of Isaiah (9:6,7).

Four millenniums after the sinful disobedience of Adam and Eve in The Garden of Eden, **The Prince of Peace** was born. He came to provide an intimate relationship of peace and close fellowship between The Godhead and obedient humans who appropriate and identify with the shed-blood sacrifice of **The Prince of Peace**, bearing in His body the dreadful anger of The God in crucifixion death for each one of all the humans personally, and His high priestly ministry in Resurrection-ascension of applying His shed-blood upon The Mercyseat in Heaven, and thus receive Redemption and wear the Garments of Salvation that He provided, just as He provided for Adam and Eve before He drove them out of The Garden of Eden.

B. The Possessor of Peace

The Lord Jesus Christ, **The Prince of Peace** and The Perpetuator of Peace is The Possessor of Peace. He Himself must possess Peace if He is to impart Peace to others. Peace is a precious and extremely costly

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possession! It cannot be bought by humans because the price to provide peace was far beyond the ability of a mere human to pay. Only The Lord Jesus Christ, The Perfect God-Human could pay the price to obtain peace. That payment required an extremely painful death in agony by a perfect human bearing the wrath and anger of The Righteous and Holy God in crucifixion-death followed by Resurrection-ascension into Heaven with the offering of His shed-blood. The only way for a human to obtain peace for oneself is to receive Peace as a gift after meeting the conditions of Peace which call for absolute and complete surrender to **The Prince of Peace**. In this way Peace becomes one's own personal possessing forever.

So many want this Peace, but become frustrated after an initial attempt to obtain this Peace by partial surrender but without utterly, complete surrender. Then instead of meeting this condition of peace, they either try again or they give up in frustration claiming that their partial, token commitment didn't work and then later claim that heeding to the conditions doesn't work. Some, like these, were among the pilgrims of the dispersion in Asia Minor, which is present day Turkey.

The apostle Peter urged those elect pilgrims of the dispersion to both seek and pursue this Peace by employing whatever measures (stated above) are necessary to obtain it. If you follow Peter's admonishment you shall preserve your Peace and pursue it forever because it is everlasting and perpetual (1 Pet. 3:10-12 APT).

C. The Personification of Peace (Eph. 2:14,15).

¹⁴For He Himself is continuously our /Peace, Who made the& both& one, even after the bringing to [to loose]ruins the middle wall of the partition¹⁵and in His /flesh [attendant circumstances participle]negating the enmity, [namely] The Law of the commandments in the sphere of [locative of sphere]dogmas so that: He create the two in union with Himself into one new kind of human[generic], in result [participle of result]making peace'' (Eph. 2:14,15 APT).

The Lord Jesus Christ Himself is The Personification of Peace. He is continuously our peace. Peace cannot be found anywhere else, except in **The Prince of Peace** Who has all authority over Peace. He is The Personification of Peace. 'Personification' is a word frequently found used in Literature Poetry courses in education and in The Scripture Poetic Books, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, and Lamentations. It is defined as: "1. The act of personifying. 2. A person or thing typifying a certain quality or idea; an embodiment or exemplification. 3. A figure of speech in which inanimate objects or abstractions are endowed with human qualities or are represented as possessing human form" (Excerpted from American Heritage Talking Dictionary, 1997). Thus the second and third uses of this word personification means 'the embodiment of an abstract thing as a person.' 'Peace' is an abstract quality or state of tranquility and freedom from mental or physical disturbance.

The Lord Jesus Christ is **The Personification of Peace**. 'Personification' means 'embodiment of an abstract thing as a person.' The Lord Jesus Christ Himself personifies Peace. He **is** our peace. When He is in full control of all one's being by means of His Holy Spirit, our Paraklete, **all is peace** and overcoming victory. Without Him there can be no real, lasting Peace and only repeated defeat!

Since **The Prince of Peace** is our peace and thus The Personification of Peace, may I suggest that when the angels, who serve The God perpetually with praise, sang immediately after the angel announced the birth of The Lord Jesus (Lk. 2:13,14), personification was intended in that praise and applies to Paul's declaration that The Lord Jesus Himself is continuously our /Prince of Peace (Eph. 2:14 APT).

¹³And abruptly together with the angel, a multitude of a heavenly host

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emerged praising The God and saying, ¹⁴Glory^[majestic radiant splendor] in ⁰Most High[&] ¹Places[!] to God! And upon Earth, Peace! Delight among humans^[generic]!” (Lk. 2:13,14 APT).

There are at least two reasons for this conclusion. Firstly, there never was peace on Earth before the birth of the Lord Jesus since Adam and Eve sinned and neither has there been peace on Earth since He was born. Additionally Scripture indicates in numerous passages that there will not be peace on Earth until The Lord Jesus Christ comes back to Earth to set up His Kingdom of Righteousness and Peace as prophesied throughout The Old Testament and The New Testament. Secondly, The Lord Jesus Christ told His disciples that He did not come to send peace on Earth but rather a sword (Mt. 10:34-36).

“³⁴Never presume that I came to cast peace upon the Earth! I did not come to cast peace, but^[on the contrary] a short sword. ³⁵For I came to set-at-variance^[to divide; cut-in-two] a human^[generic] against his /father and ⁰daughter against her /mother and ⁰bride against her /mother-in-law. ³⁶And ^[Micah 7:6]enemies of the human^[generic] are[!] his /household ones” (Mt. 10:34-36 APT).

This is the reason for much of the family turmoil, trouble, upset, and heart-rending division in homes, especially where just one or more but not all are regenerated bonds slave-disciples. But why must this be? Why did He not come to cast peace upon the Earth? We have been taught that this bringing peace **is** the reason He came. And it was but the world and the nation of Israel was not ready and willing to receive His Peace. He was crucified to make peace available to all. But so many refuse to receive it.

First of all, the conclusion of the natural sin-affected mind propounded by Satan in this Sin-cursed world has misunderstood His teaching and offer of peace and refused to comply with His conditions of Peace. Then on the other hand after tribulation, sorrow, and affliction is replaced by joy, the joy is more ecstatic and lasting. Tribulation provides a circumstance for The God to provide comfort. But even more importantly it provides an occasion for The One Who overcame the world to give His bonds slave-disciples overcoming victory for growth and maturity in the Absolute Life in union with The Lord Jesus Christ, **The Prince of Peace**.

But in the midst of all this enmity and turmoil in the home, The Crucified, Resurrected-ascended **Prince of Peace** proclaims and provides His own Perfect Peace which He continuously experienced, pronounced, produced, proclaimed, personified, promised, and proffers to all His bonds slave-disciple-saints who meet His conditions of peace.

We shall suspend our study of The Prince of Peace here and resume the next time with the other three aspects in relation to **II. Who the Prince of Peace is**.

Conclusion:

Today we began a study of the six aspects about The Lord Jesus Christ as **The Prince of Peace**, one of the nearly five hundred names, titles, and offices found in Scripture which designate Him. We covered the first aspect essential to understand the full significance, meaning and purpose of that designation, **I. What Is the Peace** of which He is Prince? In Old Testament Scripture the noun translated ‘peace’ is **shalom** {shaw-lome} or **shalom** {shaw-lome} which means “peace, friendship, completeness, soundness, and/or welfare.” In the New Testament Scripture the noun translated ‘peace’ is **εἰρήνη** {eh-eeráynay} which means “peace, rest, quietness, rational tranquillity, plus the additional concept of ‘setting at one again’ with the result being ‘reconciliation of enemies.’” The kind of Peace that The Lord Jesus Christ proffers is perfect, persistent, prevailing peace that surpasses all comprehension and results in forgiveness of sins and redemption, uniting sinners once separated from The God to reconciliation

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and to union with The Godhead. It is a very costly product, the price of which no ordinary human being can pay for oneself, let alone for others!

Then we considered the first three of six aspects of **II. Who The Prince of Peace Is**. The first aspect is A. The Person of Peace. There are two Greek nouns translated 'prince' in The New Testament. One is **ἄρχων** (arkhōn) meaning 'ruler' used to refer to the Devil or to humans. The other Greek noun is used to refer only to The Lord Jesus Christ as 'Prince,' 'captain,' or 'author' (AV) translated as 'Originator' (APT). This noun is **ἀρχηγός** (ar-khay-góhs) which means 'originator, chief military leader.' Both meanings are applicable to The Lord Jesus Christ who fulfills all these aforementioned offices.

Four millenniums after the sinful disobedience of Adam and Eve in The Garden of Eden, A. The Person: The Prince of Peace was born and given the name, **Jesus**. He came to provide an intimate relationship of peace and close fellowship between The Godhead and obedient humans who appropriate and identify with the shed-blood sacrifice of **The Prince of Peace**.

Then we considered B. The Possessor of Peace. The Lord Jesus Christ, **The Prince of Peace** and The Perpetuator of Peace is The Possessor of Peace. He Himself must possess Peace if He is to impart Peace to others. Peace is a precious and extremely costly possession! It cannot be bought by humans because the price to provide peace was far beyond the ability of a mere human to pay. Only The Lord Jesus Christ, The Perfect God-Human could pay the price to obtain peace. That payment required an extremely painful death in agony by a perfect human bearing the wrath and anger of The Righteous and Holy God in crucifixion-death followed by Resurrection-ascension into Heaven with the offering of His shed-blood. The only way for a human to obtain peace for oneself is to receive Peace as a gift after meeting the conditions of Peace which call for absolute and complete surrender to **The Prince of Peace**. In this way Peace becomes one's own personal possession forever. Has this costly possession become yours? Have you met the conditions to make Peace your own personal possession?

Then finally we considered C. The Personification of Peace is The Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Who is continuously our peace. Peace cannot be found anywhere else, except in **The Prince of Peace** Who has all authority over Peace. 'Personification' means 'embodiment of an abstract thing as a person.' The Lord Jesus Christ Himself personifies Peace. "1. The act of personifying. 2. A person or thing typifying a certain quality or idea; an embodiment or exemplification. 3. A figure of speech in which inanimate objects or abstractions are endowed with human qualities or are represented as possessing human form" (American Heritage Talking Dictionary, 1997). The Lord Jesus Christ Himself personifies Peace. He **is** our peace. Are you one of the minority that willingly accept His conditions and receive His Peace or of the majority who refuse to meet His conditions of Peace and prefer to perish rather than to repent and commit persistent faith to Him?

Application:

What will you do today with the offer The Lord Jesus Christ, **The Prince of Peace** sets before you to meet His requirements or conditions to possess His peace? DFW

For next week: Read and meditate upon: **THE PRINCE OF PEACE**: Who He Is part 2: The Producer of Peace; The Elements to Produce Peace (Isa. 9: 6,7; Col. 1:19-23; Eph. 1:7; Heb.9:5,24; 1 Pet. 1:18,19; 2:24).