



attributes of *God*

WEEK 11 — GOD IS PEACE (ORDER)



Judges 6:23-24

But the LORD said to him, “Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die.” Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD Is Peace.

1 Corinthians 14:33

For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

Wayne Grudem

“Although peace and order have not traditionally been classified as attributes of God, Paul here indicates another quality that we could think of as a distinct attribute of God.”

Review

COMMUNICABLE ATTRIBUTES

Attributes that God shares (“communicates”) with us *in part*

- 1) Omniscience
- 2) Wisdom
- 3) Truthfulness
- 4) Omnipotence

THE UNITY OF GOD

God Is Peace (Order)

Hebrew- “Shalom” – whole, completeness, welfare

Greek- “Eirene” – tranquility, quietness, rest, contentment, order, harmony between individuals

Webster’s 1828 – public tranquillity; that quiet, order and security which is guaranteed by the laws; harmony; concord; a state of reconciliation between parties at variance.

Wayne Grudem – “God’s peace means that in God’s being and in his actions he is separate from all confusion and disorder, yet he is continually active in innumerable well-ordered, fully controlled, simultaneous actions.”

Peace (Order) in God’s BEING

Judges 6:23-24 – “But the LORD said to him, ‘Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die.’ Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, **The LORD is Peace.**”

The essence of the Godhead is peace. It’s the Father, Son and Holy Spirit existing and relating to one another in perfect harmony, completeness, order and contentment.

Isaiah 9:6-7 – “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Romans 15:37 – “May the God of peace be with you all.”

Romans 16:20 – “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”

Philippians 4:9 – “What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:23 – “Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely...”

2 Thessalonians 3:16 – “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way...”

Hebrews 13:20 – “Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant...”

Peace (Order) in God’s ACTIONS

The Godhead’s first ACTION was the perfect manifestation of Peace (Order) through creation.

Genesis 2:1-3 – “Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.”

Colossians 1:17 – “And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

1 Corinthians 14:33 – “For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.”

Peace (Order) corrupted by SIN

Confusion, disorder, chaos came from sin. Sin originated at the fall of Satan (Pride).

Isaiah 14:12-15 – “How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! You said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’ But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit.”

2 Peter 2:4 – “For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment...”

Jude 6 – “And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day.”

Satan continued his rebellious mission by deceiving Adam and Eve to sin bringing disorder and separation on the earth. Sin broke the peace.

God’s Plan of Redemption to Restore Peace

Isaiah 9:6-7 – “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.”

Romans 5:1 – “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 2:13-14 – “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.”

Romans 8:6 – “For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.”

True Peace is ONLY for followers of Jesus.

Isaiah 48:22 – “There is no peace, says the LORD, for the wicked.”

Isaiah 57:1 – “There is no peace, says my God, for the wicked.”

Luke 2:14 – “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

Hebrews 11:6 – “And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

What is True Peace?

John 14:27 – “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

Oswald Chambers – “If I was peaceful and happy, living a clean upright life, why should Jesus Christ come with a standard of holiness I never dreamt of? Simply, because that peace was the peace of death, a peace altogether apart from God. The coming of Jesus Christ to the natural man means the destruction of all peace that is not based on a personal relationship to Himself.”

2 Thessalonians 3:16 – “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way...”

Philippians 4:7 – “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Colossians 3:15 – “And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.”

THIS IS A COMMUNICABLE ATTRIBUTE

God has given us His peace, so that we may be His peacemakers in the world.

Matthew 5:9 – “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

Galatians 5:22-25 – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.”

Psalms 34:14 – “Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.”

Romans 12:14-21 – “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

1 Peter 3:8-12 – “Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. For whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

2 Timothy 2:22 – “So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.”

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 – “All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.”

CHALLENGE

GOD’S PEACE SHOULD LEAD US TO WORSHIP

GOD’S PEACE SHOULD LEAD US TO PRAY

GOD’S PEACE SHOULD LEAD US TO SHARE CHRIST WITH OTHERS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you experienced the peace of God recently?
2. How does God's peace help us overcome fear?
3. How does God's peace encourage us to seek Him and pray?
4. Knowing we are called to be those who pursue peace (peacemakers) and ministers of reconciliation, how does that motivate you to do evangelism and relate with people, even other Christians?
5. What songs do you know that are about God's peace?

PRAY.

