

peace

JOHN 14 : 23 ~ 29

MAY 26, 2019

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.”

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” The defining phrase is: *“Not as the world gives.”* That defines God’s peace for us. The world promises peace through the rule of law. Law and order is the only way for a society and a people to experience peace and law and order must be kept by the aggressive use of force. That’s the only way that the world can bring about peace.

But here is how Jesus will give you peace. If you obey his word, He and the Father will come to you and make a home with you. Right in your heart. Not by force but by choice. They will abide in your heart bringing peace. The world’s peace is peace through strength. The Lord’s peace is peace through surrender.

The Spirit of God is and has been in your life since you drew your first breath. It is the challenge of a lifetime to decipher that Spirit and to become ever more aware of His daily presence. That Spirit of God is so evident:

in those who take a stand against injustice,
in the grace of folk who go the second mile,
in the inner resources we discover in times of crisis,
in those who dare to go against the tide of popular opinion,
in the grace that enables us to admit when we are wrong,

in the resilience of people who fight for the rights of others,
in those who surrender
some of their rights for the greater good,
in times when we boldly speak the truth
in spite of our fears and inadequacy,
in finding joy in unexpected places,
in taking on responsibilities
that we once thought beyond us,
in refusing to let the greed of society take over our soul,
in giving thanks always, even through the hard times of life,
in rising above past failures and
putting past hurts behind us.
in finding a central core of peace in the midst of turmoil,
in daring to laugh in situations where some would curse,
in knowing ourselves to be children of God,
in knowing ourselves loved,
even when we have been very unlovable.

Jesus wants us to travel to places we've never been because of the potential to meet new people. Life is about relationships, sharing the good news and spreading peace. As Jesus said, *"If the house you enter is worthy, let your peace come upon it."*

We are to remember that every household is worthy because the House of our soul was considered worthy to harbor the Spirit of God.