

The Peace of God

1 Co 14:26-33

26 What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. 27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; 28 but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God. 29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. 30 But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted; 32 and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; 33 for **God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.**

NASU

1 Co 14:33

33 For God is **not** a God of **disorder but of peace**,
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1 Co 14:33

33 because God does not want us to be in disorder but in harmony and peace.

TEV

1 Co 14:33

33 When we worship the right way, God doesn't stir us up into confusion; he brings us into harmony.

THE MESSAGE:

1) What peace is not

- a) Peace is not disorder
 - i) Peace is not Chaos
 - ii) Peace is not confusion
 - iii) Peace is not turmoil
 - iv) Peace is not anarchy
 - v) None of these things are within the character of God – nor are they one of His attributes
- b) The word translated “disorder” or “confusion” here comes from another word that means “instability” and is translated in the KJV as “commotion” “confusion” and “tumult” – Paul here is explaining that God’s actions are characterized by peace (Grudem)
- c) So we could say that peace is the opposite of disorder and therefore one definition of the word peace is order
 - i) When we meet other

- ii) In our personal lives
- iii) Disorder tends towards chaos

2) God Himself is the God of peace

Ro 15:33

33 Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

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- a) If He is the “God of peace” this would mean that not only is peace part of His nature and character he rules in peace as well
 - i) If God’s character is marked by peace who’s character would be marked by disorder or be void of peace?
 - ii) The accuser of the brethren – the enemy of our souls
 - iii) Yet God soon will take decisive action to bring forth a peace that will have an eternal quality

Ro 16:20

20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

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- b) One of the marks of God’s peace within the body of Christ is harmony

1 Co 14:33

33 because God does not want us to be in disorder but in harmony and peace.

TEV

- i) Harmony does not mean that we play the same note – but that our notes are compatible – or not conflicting
 - ii) A definition of the word harmony is: Compatibility in opinion and action
 - iii) Not only are we to hold the same ethic as the body of Christ but in the world our acts are to display harmony and bring forth peace
 - iv) This “harmony (working in symphony with each other)” which is the earmark of God’s presence in the body – is the opposite of confusion and disorder which is the earmark of the enemy
- c) If God is the author (the source or Creator) of peace in our lives – than the enemy is the author, or creator of disorder or confusion.
- d) When greeting and parting the Jews say “Shalom”
 - i) This word does not just mean the lack of chaos
 - ii) It means well being in the fullest sense

The Hebrew term for peace means "well-being" It covers health, prosperity, security, friendship and salvation. It is the desired experience of individuals, families and Israel as a nation. It is present because of God's own presence and his favor toward his people.

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- iii) This is a full-orbed well-being lacking in nothing
- iv) It is marked by wholeness and contains not one thing that would tend toward chaos or disorder
- v) Ultimately this peace can only be found in relationship with God who is the Creator and founder of our peace – this is why...

Isa 48:20-22

20 Yet even now, be free from your captivity!

Leave Babylon and the Babylonians.

Sing out this message!

Shout it to the ends of the earth!

The Lord has redeemed his servants,
the people of Israel.

21 They were not thirsty
when he led them through the desert.

He divided the rock,
and water gushed out for them to drink.

22 "But there is no peace for the wicked,"
says the Lord.

New Living Translation

- vi) We hear in the passage rejoicing because of redemption – we hear God's promise of provision in the wilderness – yet we also hear that this peace, or rest is not obtainable for those who have not experienced redemption

3) God understand the state of His creation

Isa 54:11

11 "O afflicted one, storm-tossed, and not comforted,

Behold, I will set your stones in antimony,

And your foundations I will lay in sapphires.

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Isa 54:11

11 "O storm-battered city,

troubled and desolate!

I will rebuild you with precious jewels

and make your foundations from lapis lazuli.

New Living Translation ®

- a) He in Isaiah the prophet speaks of the city of God – Jerusalem
- b) Yet this statement is a promise of a peace that is to come – a peace that will be manifested in the form of the “new” Jerusalem – The city of peace
 - i) Abraham sought for this “city”

Heb 11:8-10

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place
which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing

where he was going. 9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as

in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; 10 for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

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- ii) Yet we who walk in the covenant that Abraham was promise have come to that city – a corporate reality of peace

Heb 12:18

For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind,

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Heb 12:2-24

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.

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- iii) This peace is to be found because of the mediator of the New Covenant and the shed blood of Christ – it is earmarked by a restored relationship with the Father
- c) WE are to take action to allow this peace to rule in us

Col 3:15

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

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- i) The phrase “let the peace of Christ rule” in the Greek is stated like this “and the peace of God let rule in your hearts”
- ii) The phrase “let rule” in the Greek is one word.
 - (1) It means “to govern” or “prevail”
 - (2) This allowing to rule principle is simply a yielding to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives

Gal 5:22

22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace,

New Living Translation

Wayne Grudem defines God's peace this way...

God's peace means that in God's being and in His actions He is separate from all confusion and disorder (pg.203)

- Do we see this peace functioning in our lives – in our church? – a “Shalom” – a full-orbed well-being lacking in nothing?
- It is important to recognize what peace is not – it is not confusion – chaos – or disorder
- God’s peace brings compatibility in opinion and action
- God’s peace brings wholeness to our lives individually and corporately
- God understands our state apart from Him and promised to bring His restorative peace and wholeness to the one’s He has chosen
- We to “let” peace rule in our hearts

This peace is to be found in the blood of Christ