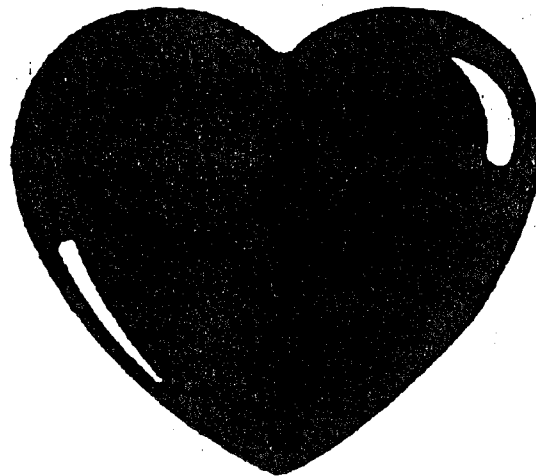


# THE PEACEMAKER

(The Root System Of A Healthy Peacemaker)  
Matthew 5:9



- ◆ What Is A Peacemaker?
- ◆ What Robs Us Of Peacemaking?
- ◆ What Is The Reward Of A Peacemaker?

**“Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God” (Matthew 5:9)**

**Bill Kirk**

# “MATTERS OF THE HEART”

## Message #7

**Text:** Matthew 5:9; James 3:14-4:2

**Subject:** “Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God”

### Introduction

1. In verse 3, “Blessed are the poor in spirit”.
2. In verse 4, “Blessed are they that mourn”.
3. In verse 5, “Blessed are the meek”.
4. In verse 6, “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness”.
5. In verse 7, “Blessed are the merciful”.
6. In verse 8, “Blessed are the pure in heart”.
7. In verse 9, “Blessed are the peacemakers”.

**Question:** Why are peacemakers specifically blessed of God?

**Question:** What is a peacemaker according to Scripture?

**Question:** How can you be a peacemaker?

**Question:** What are the hindrances to making peace?

**Question:** What is the reward (the special reward) of a Matthew 5:9 peacemaker?

**Question:** Is peace that important to God?

1. “But the fruit of the Spirit is **peace**” (Galatians 5:22)
2. “Therefore being justified by faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1)
3. “Thou wilt keep him in perfect **peace** whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee” (Isaiah 26:3)
4. “Grace be unto you, and **peace** from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:2)
5. “For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and **peace** and joy in the Holy Ghost” (Romans 14:17)
6. “The Lord will give strength unto His people, the Lord will bless His people with **peace**” (Ps. 29:11)
7. “I will both lay me down in **peace**, and sleep; for thou Lord only makest me dwell in safety” (Ps. 4:8)
8. “Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at **peace**: Thereby good shall come unto thee” (Job 22:21)
9. “And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of **Peace**” (Isaiah 9:6)
10. “For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and **peace**” (Romans 8:6)
11. “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have **peace**: In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33)
12. “**Peace** I leave with you, My **peace** I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (John 14:27)
13. “Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and **peace** in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost” (Romans 15:13)
14. “**Peace** be with you all that are in Christ Jesus (I Peter 5:14)
15. “Follow **peace** with all men and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord” (Heb. 12:14)

(And Finally In Romans 12:18)

◆ “If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live **peaceably** with all men”.

- ◆ “Don’t quarrel with anyone; be at **peace** with everyone”

**Question:** What is peace?

The word **peace** (EIRENE) means six things:

1. Rest
2. Order
3. Harmony
4. Security
5. Tranquil
6. Quietness

**(Peace Is:)**

- 1...Tranquility in your inner man because of God’s **presence** in your life.
- 2...**Security** in the midst of **turmoil**; the eye in the middle of the storm.
- 3...That assurance given us by God, that He is **in control** and **over all** that touches you.
- 4...The fruit which gives **order, rest** and **harmony** to you on the **inside**.
- 5...That quality of God’s nature imparted to a believer who is yielded and **surrendered** to the Holy Spirit’s control.

**(Many Look For Peace In)**

- |               |               |              |                           |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Power      | 5. Clothes    | 9. Drugs     | 13. Geographic Location   |
| 2. Prestige   | 6. Fancy Cars | 10. Tobacco  | 14. Immoral Relationships |
| 3. Position   | 7. Sports     | 11. Jobs     | 15. Material Things       |
| 4. Popularity | 8. Pleasure   | 12. Religion | 16. Man’s Approval        |

- ◆ But **the peace of God** that passes all understanding can only be found in the Lord!
- ◆ It is the byproduct, or fruit, or reward of someone who is in right relationship with God.

**I. What Is A Peacemaker?**

“Blessed are the peacemakers” (v. 9)

- ◆ The word “peacemaker” here comes from the Greek word (EIRENOPOIOS) Which means:
 

#1. To bring together	#6. To eliminate strife
#2. To pursue harmony	#7. To silence criticism
#3. To resolve disputes	#8. To set at rest
#4. To erase division	#9. To make peace with God
#5. To reconcile differences	#10. To build right relationships

**Question:** How many of you believe it is a good idea to be in right relationship with God (and people)?

**Question:** How many of you know that it is God’s plan for you to “get along” with your spouse, your parents, your children, your employer, your deacon and your neighbors?

**Question:** How many of you haven’t tore out of your Bible – 2 Timothy 2:24 “Refuse to quarrel and contend, but preserve the bond of peace”.

**Illustration**

- ◆ One day a little boy was picking on his sister and his sister ran to her mother crying.
- ◆ Mom said, “Honey what’s wrong?”
- ◆ The little girl said, “Johnny told me I was ugly”.
- ◆ Mom said, “Johnny, tell your sister you’re sorry”.
- ◆ Johnny said, “Ok, Sissy; I’m sorry you’re ugly”.

**(That’s not how to preserve the bond of peace)**

- #1. A peacemaker is someone who pursues harmony.
- #2. A peacemaker is someone who erases division.
- #3. A peacemaker is someone who silences criticism.
- #4. A peacemaker is someone who eliminates strife.
- #5. A peacemaker is someone who reconciles differences.
- #6. A peacemaker is someone who resolves disputes.
- #7. A peacemaker is someone who buries the hatchet.

◆ Peacemakers practice Matthew 5: 23 – 24

“So if you offer your gift at the altar and remember that your brother has something against you; leave your gift beside the altar and go make peace with your brother, and then come and offer your gift”.

(In Other Words)

◆ It is more important to God that your heart be clean and your relationships be right (than it is for you to give a million dollars in the offering).

## II. How Can You Be A New Testament Peacemaker?

(James has the answer) James 3:13-4:2

1. James here contrasts what is peaceable to what is contentious.
2. He shows us the root cause of visible behavior we've all seen.
3. We have before us a revelation of two sources that produce two different kinds of fruit.
4. It is a picture of a healthy person (and an unhealthy person).
5. It is a “Plain vanilla” list of what blocks and (what promotes) a peaceable spirit inside of us all.

**First:** James reveals 2 traits of the Wise (v. 13)

- #1. **“Good Behavior”** (which refers to someone going back to the truth to change and conform to that truth).
- #2. **“Meekness of Wisdom”** (Which is someone gentle and not out of control)

(2 Traits Of The Unwise Are): (Verse 14)

**Trait #1. Strife** (which means “party spirit”.)

- ◆ It is the word used by the Greeks to describe a politician canvassing for votes.
- ◆ It means to “Canvas” for your cause even if it causes strife, division and contention.

**Trait #2. Deceit** (V. 14 “Lie not against the truth” (Means:))

- ◆ To deceive other people for the purpose of promoting yourself.
- ◆ It means; devilish wisdom is revealed by the fruit of contention (as opposed to peacefulness).

(In Other Words)

◆ God is the author of peace and gentleness! ◆ Satan is the author of strife and division!

**The Question Is: How Can You Be A Peacemaker?**

(By avoiding 5 traps in James 3:14-18)

- ◆ 5 things to avoid like the plague.
- ◆ 5 traps of satan that produce contention inside of you (and outside).
- ◆ 5 seeds that produce a harvest of death, war and unrest within.

**(Write Down These)**  
**5 Killers Of A Peacemaker**

- #1. **Guilt**: Which causes you to justify past actions (instead of repenting of them).
- #2. **Bitterness**: Which is reacting because of personal hurts (that will poison your spirit).
- #3. **Envy**: Which desires what someone else has, and is disturbed because he can't have it.
- #4. **Rebellion**: Which is an independent spirit that resists submission to God.
- #5. **Pride**: Which wants to exalt itself and have its own way.

**The Opposite Of These 5**  
**(Will allow you to be at peace inwardly and a peacemaker outwardly)**

**(5 Roots Of A Peacemaker)**

- #1. Instead of guilt (**freedom**) because you repent of sin and refuse to justify it.
- #2. Instead of bitterness (**forgiveness**) because you know that God has forgiven you of all.
- #3. Instead of envy (**contentment**) because God is enough for you to enjoy what you have.
- #4. Instead of rebellion (**submission**) because you know that God's way is better than your way.
- #5. Instead of pride (**humility**) because you know that God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.

#1. **The Cause** (V. 16)

- ◆ The word "**Confusion**" means "**Disorder**".
- ◆ It means disorderly (un-peaceful) people reveal the cause is disorder on the inside.

#2. **The Choice** (V. 17)

- ◆ "Without hypocrisy" means: Refusing to wear a mask and pretend to be something outwardly that you are not inwardly.
- ◆ It is my choice "Not to pretend" that allows me to pray through and be cleansed.

#3. **The Calm** (V. 18)

- "The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace" (Means:)
- ◆ If we refuse the 5 enemies of peace, we will reap peace inwardly, (and)
  - ◆ Then we can sow peace into other people.

**Remember:**

- ◆ It is injured people who injure others, (and)
- ◆ It is peaceful people who sow peace to others.

**III. What Is The Reward Of A Peacemaker?**

"Blessed are the peacemakers, (why?) for they shall be called the children of God" (v. 9)

**Question:** What does it mean to "be called the children of God?"

**Answer:** The word "called" means "owned". **(It means that...)**

- #1...Peacemakers are children of God because they resemble their Heavenly Father.
- #2...Peacemakers are children of God because they repeat what God has done (in making peace through the blood of His cross).
- #3...Peacemakers are children of God because they resolve the internal issues in their own life that disturb their peace.
- #4...Peacemakers are children of God because they humble themselves enough before Father, so that God can change what needs to be changed.
- #5...Peacemakers are children of God because they have submitted themselves to God's authority (as a child would wisely to their parents authority).

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**(In Other Words)**

- ◆ Peacemakers have died to stubbornness,
- ◆ Peacemakers have died to resistance,
- ◆ Peacemakers have died to self-preoccupation,
- ◆ Peacemakers have died to their way (so they can submit to God's way).

**Question:** Have you done that?

**Question:** Do you need to do that?

**Question:** Will you do that?

**Question:** Will you make peace with God so that you can be a peacemaker for God?

“Pastor, I’m in need of peace and I want to be a peacemaker – what do I do?”

**(James 4:7-8)**

#1. **Submit To God** (V.7)

(Hold no area back or you’ll be miserable)

#2. **Resist The Devil** (V. 7)

(Or give him “no foothold” to work from at all)

#3. **Draw Closer To God** (V. 8)

(Through confession, cleansing and purifying our hearts).

**Altar Call...**

**Question:** Is there any quilt from sin that robs you of the peace of God?

**Question:** Is there any stubbornness on the inside that is causing you trouble on the outside?

**Question:** Have you been blaming someone else for what is inside of you?

**Question:** Are you willing to submit your will to God and be internally changed?

**Question:** Will you allow the Spirit, to take the Word, and minister life saving surgery?

AMEN!

Bill Kirk, Pastor