

Peace Declared

by D.L. Moody

Jesus Christ made peace on the Cross, and we can experience perfect peace by trusting in Him and having our mind stayed on God.

Scripture: Isaiah 26:3, Matthew 11:28-30, John 14:27, John 16:33, Romans 5:1, Ephesians 2:14, Philippians 4:7, Colossians 1:20, Hebrews 12:2, 1 Peter 5:7

Topics: "Peace in Christ", "Faith and Trust"

Description

D.L. Moody illustrates the concept of peace through a story of French sailors who, despite being in distress, hesitated to enter an English port due to fear of war. They eventually learned that peace had been declared, paralleling how many people fail to believe in the peace Jesus offers through His sacrifice on the Cross. Moody emphasizes that true peace comes from focusing on Christ rather than oneself, encouraging believers to trust in the Lord for everlasting strength. He reminds us that faith is an outward look towards Jesus, who provides peace for our conscience and hearts. Ultimately, Moody calls for acceptance of the peace that Christ has made available to all.

Transcript

When France and England were at war, a French vessel had gone off on a long voyage, a whaling voyage; and when they came back, the crew were short of water, and being now near an English port, they wanted to get water; but they were afraid that they would be taken if they went into that port; and some people in the port saw them, saw their signal of distress, and sent word to them that they need not be afraid, that the war was over, and peace had been declared. But they couldn't make those sailors believe it, and they didn't dare to go into port, although they were out of water; but at last they made up their minds that they had better go in and surrender up their cargo and surrender up their lives to their enemies than to perish at sea without water; but when they got in, they found out that peace had been declared, and that what had been told them was true.

So there are a great many people who don't believe the glad tidings that peace has been made. Jesus Christ made peace on the Cross. He satisfied the claims of the law; and this law which condemns you and me has been fulfilled by Jesus Christ. He has made peace, and now He wants us just to enjoy it, just to believe it. Nor is there a thing to hinder us from doing it, if we will. We can enter into that blessing now, and have perfect peace. The promise is: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee."

Trust ye in the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." Now, as long as our mind is stayed on our dear selves, we will never have peace. Some people think more of themselves than of all the rest of the world. It is self in the morning, self at noon, and self at night. It is self when they wake up, and self when they go to bed; and they are all the time looking at themselves and thinking about themselves, instead of "looking unto Jesus" Faith is an outward look.

Faith does not look within; it looks without. It is not what I think, nor what I feel, nor what I have done, but it is what Jesus Christ is and has done, and so we should trust in Him who is our strength, and whose strength will never fail. After Christ rose from the grave, three times, John tells us, He met His disciples and said unto them, "Peace be unto you." There is peace for the conscience through His blood, and peace for the heart in His love.

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