

“God’s Ways Are Not Our Ways” - PEACE

John 14:27

“Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give *and* bequeath to you. **Not as the world gives** do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.] “ [AMP]

“I leave behind with you - **peace**; I give you my own peace and my gift (peace) is **nothing like the peace of this world.**” [JB Phillips translation]

NOTE: the GR word for “**peace**” used in these verses is an “inside-out” word----(it **begins** when my heart is right with God): **eirene** = “the absence of turmoil, strife, conflict; a state of undisturbed well-being”; often called “**heart-peace**” [Sin in my life is the enemy of this kind of peace.]

What kind of peace does the world give?

1) **dependent upon how we feel** [our hearts] (remember that feelings are NOT scientific instruments...although they are real, they often don't measure reality accurately.)

2) **dependent upon our ability to figure-things-out** [our minds / understanding]

Phil. 4:6,7 “Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done...and the **peace of God**, which **surpasses all understanding**, will guard your **hearts & minds--- in Christ Jesus.**” * re: “understanding” GR= nous: “the human capacity for reason & perceiving divine things; the power of considering & judging soberly & calmly.” [ie: the ability to connect-the-dots, figure things out]

3) **dependent upon circumstances** ----when I am getting things my way (so it is changeable & fleeting)

* **NOTE: Jesus never gives us peace apart from HIMSELF.....our peace is in His person.**
“**He Himself is our peace...**” Eph. 2:14

“I have told you all this so that you may have **peace in me.*** Here on earth [by contrast] you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

“You (God) will keep in **perfect peace** all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!” Is. 26:3

What kind of peace does God have?

- 1) it is **absolute** (unwavering, unaffected)
- 2) it is **independent** of other things (self-contained)
- 3) because He knows the future, it is **constant & eternal**
- 4) it is His very **nature** & He is the **source** of all true peace
- 5) it is rooted in His **Holiness** (total separation from sin)

So: **WHICH KIND OF PEACE DO I HAVE? WHY?** (Where am I trying to get it?)