

The New Testament Church
The Righteous will Shine #4 – Walking in the Peace of God
October 6, 2024 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I The Righteous will Shine

- A. God strategically places us as a seed of the Kingdom where we will influence others
 - 1. Christian character outlasts and transcends politics, laws, wars and economics, etc.
 - 2. Wheat will outlast the tares (evil defeats itself) – our focus is Christ and His Character
- B. How will the character of Christ shine through the Believer to others?
 - 1. The character (image) of Christ is “carved” into our lives, often by “suffering”
 - a. The “image” of Christ in born again believers is clouded by sin
 - b. We are to progressively portray Christ to a dark culture without Him
 - 2. The revealing of the “sons of God” will redeem people and creation
 - a. The “firstfruits” of the Spirit – the Holy Spirit in us – He will release Christ
 - b. Joy, peace and love – Galatians 5:19-23 – the initial fruit (character of the Spirit)

II Peace is like contentment – “satisfied, you have enough” – what you have, plus God

- A. Philippians 4:6-9 defines the character quality of peace – “quietness, rest”
 - 1. Be “anxious for nothing” – *over-anxious, distracted* from our major focus
 - 2. Prayer, supplication (God will supply our need) with thanksgiving make requests to God
 - 3. The *peace of God* (surpassing our understanding) will guard your heart and mind
 - 4. The *God of peace* will be with you – His intervention
 - 5. How do you cultivate the peace of God? Meditate (roll over in your mind continually)...
 - 1. What things are true – *veracity, conforming to fact (natural) and reality (spiritual)*
 - 2. What is noble – *venerable, honorable, honest*
 - 3. What is just – *equitable, giving everyone their due (the blinded eyes)*
 - 4. What is pure – *innocent, modest, clean*
 - 5. What is lovely – *amiable, loving*
 - 6. What is a good report – *a pleasant report, found from examination*
 - 7. If there is virtue (moral) and it is praiseworthy (gratefulness) – think on them!
- B. Matthew 8:23-27; **Mark 4:35-41**; Luke 8:22-25
 - 1. Jesus had just taught many parables during the day, explaining them to his disciples
 - a. This was early on in His ministry, before Peter walked on the water
 - b. They were getting to know Jesus, *we need to understand His ways as well*
 - 2. That evening, He said “let us cross over to the other side” – God tells us to get moving
 - 3. They left the multitude and got into a boat – there were other little boats following
 - 4. A great windstorm rose, and the waves came into the boat – filling it with water
 - 5. Jesus was asleep in the stern, on a pillow... - Jesus had the **PEACE OF GOD** in a storm
 - 6. They woke Him up, saying “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”
 - a. When we are unaware of what God is doing – we complain and don’t think He cares
 - b. The disciples did not understand peace *in the midst of a storm* – internal confidence
 - 7. He arose and rebuked the wind, “peace be still” – the **GOD OF PEACE** intervened
 - 8. He then asked them “why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?”
 - 9. They were afraid, “who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!”
 - a. The disciples were enamored with Him calming the waves, but this was not the point
 - b. Jesus was after being at peace even if the winds do not cease – a faith (confidence)