

Sunday, February 25, 2024—Galatians 5:22 The Fruit of the Spirit, Part 4 (Peace)

Galatians 2:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

- The word translated “fruit” in verse 22 is singular. We are studying the “fruit” the Spirit bears in the believer’s life he/she submits to the Holy Spirit and makes to the faith choice to “walk in the Spirit” (v. 16)
- **Peace**—is the third fruit of the Spirit identified in this verse. The word translated “peace” occurs 92 times in the New Testament and can mean a variety of different things depending on the context in which it is used.
 - Political Peace—a state of national tranquility.
 - Relational Peace—peace between individual concord. harmony, concord.
 - Societal Peace—security, safety, prosperity, felicity, (because peace and harmony make and keep things safe and prosperous).
 - Spiritual Peace—of Christianity, the tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is.
 - Eternal Peace—the blessed state of devout and upright men after death.
 - Matthew 10:34
 - Luke 2:14
 - Luke 8:48
 - Luke 10:5
 - Luke 19:42
 - John 14:27
 - John 16:33
- Noah Webster offers the following general definition of the English word “peace” his *American Dictionary of the English Language*:
 - “In a general sense, a state of quiet or tranquility; freedom from disturbance or agitation; applicable to society, to individuals, or to the temper of the mind.”

- The ability to function and operate in a state of general “peace” with self and others is one of the fruit of the Spirit. This does not mean that there will be no storms in life but rather an ability to function in a state of quiet tranquility despite one life circumstances.
- Colossians 3:15—the first phrase, “and let the peace of God rule in your hearts,” is an imperative commend. Letting the “peace of God rule” in our hearts is completely a matter of choice for the believer. We have a choice regarding what we let rule our hearts and it is completely contingent on our minds and what we think about.
 - Romans 8:5-6
- Galatians 5:22—“peace” is a fruit of the Spirit. Consider how many of the fruit of the Spirit have been mentioned in Colossians 3 in connection with putting on the “new man.”
 - Colossians 3:10
 - Galatians 5:16—walking in the new man is synonymous with walking after the Spirit.

Galatians 5—The Fruit of the Spirit	Colossians 3—The New Man
Love	Charity (v. 14)
Joy	
Peace	Peace of God (v. 15)
Longsuffering	Longsuffering (v. 12)
Gentleness	Kindness & Humbleness of Mind (v. 12)
Faith	
Meekness	Meekness (v. 12)
Temperance	

- As believers we need to understand the difference between “peace with God” and the “peace of God.”
 - Romans 5:1—as believers we have peace “with God” on account of our justification.
 - Romans 5:10—we are no longer God’s enemies. Where there used to be enmity and hostility there is now peace on the basis of the cross work of Jesus Christ.
 - Romans 15:13—the God of peace wants to fill us with all joy and peace in believing.
 - Philippians 4:6-7—the “peace of God” is capable of keeping your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
 - Carefulness and anxiety rob believers of the “peace of God.” Prayer is the instrumentality through which believers can “let the peace of God rule” in their hearts.

- Philippians 4:8-9—choosing to “let the peace of God rule” in your heart is also directly related to what you allow your mind to dwell on. Your emotions are dumb and respond to what you think about.
 - Romans 12:1-2
 - II Corinthians 10:4-5
- Galatians 5:22—the ability of the possesses and operate peacefully in your life is the result of God the Holy Spirit’s fruit in your life as a believer.