

What Does It Mean To Be A "Peacemaker"?

Matthew 5:9

In Christ's Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is addressing those who professed to follow Him, with particular emphasis on His disciples. He is speaking about _____ that mark those destined for the Kingdom of Heaven... or those who are genuinely Christian.

I. What Is Jesus Saying In This Verse?

The word *peacemaker* is comprised of two Greek words. The Greek word translated "peace" is based on the Hebrew word, _____. The second word means, to make... to work towards... to facilitate.

It is the "peace-makers" who are the ones that are blessed, not necessarily _____. The peace that God's Word calls *blessed* does not come from _____ of issues or situations; it comes from facing them, dealing with them, being pro-active in a Christ-focused and centered way in an attempt to bring about peace.

What Jesus is saying in this verse is essentially this: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be doing a _____ work."

II. What Kind Of "Peace" Are We Supposed To Make?

Peace - "A state of quiet or tranquility; calm, quietness, or repose; freedom from war or hostility; a cessation of hostilities; absence of strife; tranquility of mind; harmony; serenity; public tranquility and order." (New Webster's Dictionary)

Where _____ peace? Have you experienced real and lasting peace? If not, why not? Consider just a few of many verses on this subject: (Ps. 119:165; Isa. 26:3; John 14:27; 16:33; Rom. 14:17; Gal. 5:22-23; Phil. 4:6-7).

The point is this, there is the _____ of peace; and then there is _____ peace. Only one of them is real, only one of them is true.

Upon the authority of God's own Word, "true truth", **there is no true peace apart from God... there is no true peace apart from salvation in Jesus Christ the Son.**

Do YOU truly believe that there is no peace apart from Jesus Christ? Good! Now what are YOU doing about it???

III. What It Means To Be A Peacemaker

When we think of the word "peacemaker", we tend to think of someone(s) who comes between two warring or arguing factions...

- Some are at war with _____. To be a peacemaker, one must first be at peace with God. (c.f. 1 John 1:9; Ps. 139:23-24)
- Some people are at _____. When Christian fellowship gets messed up, Jesus provides for peacemaking in such texts as Matt. 18:15ff.
- What is it about peacemaking that has us doing a God-like or God-ordained work? _____! (c.f. Rom. 10:13-15; Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19-20) We are to help make or facilitate peace between lost people and God; not leave them to die in their sin.

Conclusion and Application:

Missionaries are in fact "peacemakers"; and you and I are called to be missionaries, peacemakers to our own Jerusalem - our own community! Let us pray for and be peacemakers to those around us, and to the end of the earth; for then we shall be called the children of God!