

FREE AT LAST! THE MESSAGE OF GALATIANS
March 11, 2010

The Fruitful Gospel: Peace – Galatians 5:16-26

5:22

I. Peace comes from the Spirit of God.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is...peace...”

Webster says “state of tranquility or quiet; freedom from evil disturbance.”

“Shalom” = 250+ times in OT = wellbeing, prosperity, health, fulfillment, completion

“Eirene” = 92 times in NT

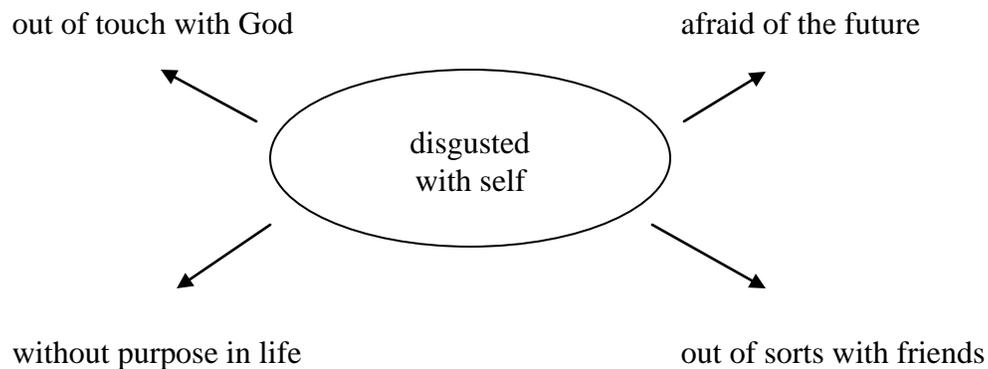
- Protection from harm
- Provisions for life
- Love: acceptance, inclusion, value
- Purpose for life

cf. John 14:27; Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:14; 7:50; John 16:33; Ephesians 2:14, 15

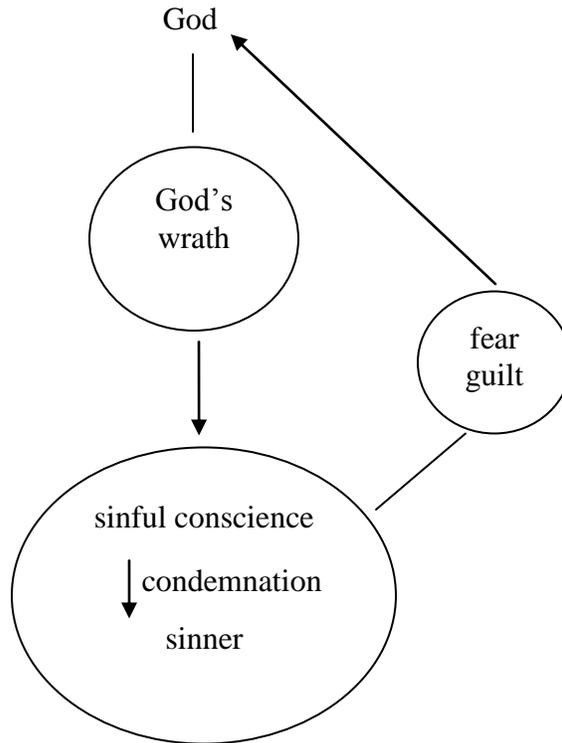
II. The peace of God comes from peace with God.

cf. Romans 5:1

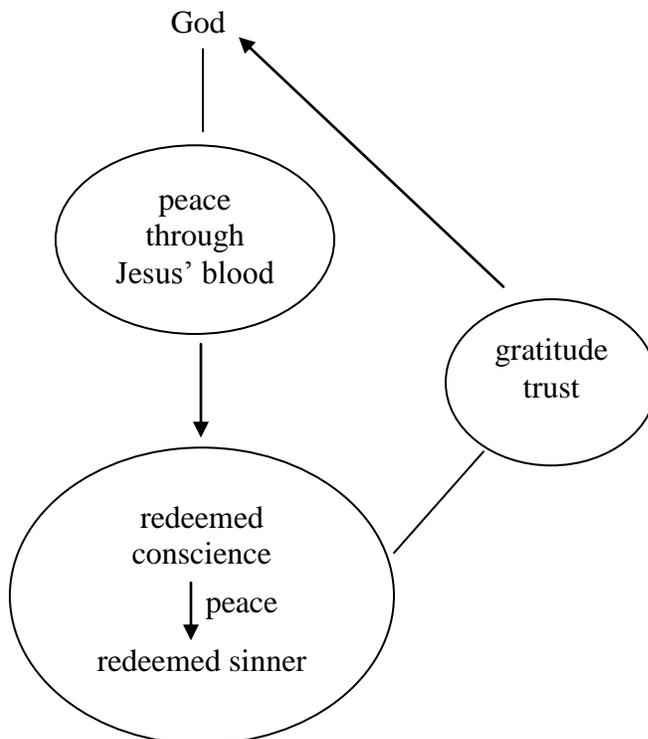
The Restless Soul



The Root of the Problem



The Solution



III. We obtain God’s peace by walking in the Spirit.

“So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.”

- A. Do not be anxious about anything.
“Do not be anxious about anything...” (Phil. 4:6)
cf. Matt. 6:25-34; I Peter 5:7

- B. Pray about everything.
“...but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (Phil. 4:6)

- C. Trust God’s promise.
“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 4:7)
cf. Phil. 4:10-13; Isa. 26:3, 4

IV. Peace with God leads to peace with others.

“For he himself who is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. (Eph. 2:14-18)

- A. We are united.
 - We have the same Jesus. (vs14,15)
 - We have the same salvation. (v16)
 - We have the same message. (v17)
 - We have the same Father. (v18a)
 - We have the same Spirit. (v18b)

- B. We are commanded.
cf. Matt. 18:15-20

The soul at peace
 The new humanity – the Church
 Families at peace
 Early childhood at peace
 Peaceful schools
 Peaceful neighborhoods

Jobs, poverty relief
 Affordable housing
 Medical and psychological care
 Politics, racial harmony
 The arts

V. Peace with God leads to peace with the cosmos.

A. It is a gift.
cf. Isa. 52:7

B. It is our mission.
“Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” (Jer. 29:7)

