

Luke 2:8-18 (NIV)

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."**

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them."

Shalom (Peace) - "May you enjoy security and safety, may you experience harmony and accord in all parts of your life, and may you have soundness, completeness, and health in every respect." (53)

Isaiah 9:6-7 ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace**. ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and **peace** there will be no end ..." (NIV)

Luke 1:79 " ... [He will] guide our feet into the path of **peace**." (NIV)

Luke 2:13-14 ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."**

PATHWAY TO PEACE-FILLED PRAISE

1. Jesus came to provide peace with GOD.

Romans 5:1-2 “¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this **grace** in which we now stand...” (NIV)

Romans 5:6-11 “⁶ You see, at just the right time, **when we were still powerless**, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: **While we were still sinners**, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through Him! ¹⁰ For if, **while we were God’s enemies**, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.” (NIV)

2. Jesus came to provide a peace with MYSELF.

John 14:27 “**Peace** I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (NIV)

Philippians 4:6-7 “⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the **peace** of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (NIV)

3. Jesus came to provide peace with OTHERS.

Ephesians 2:13-22 “¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He Himself is our **peace**, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by abolishing in His flesh the law

with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in Himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making **peace**,¹⁶ and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, but which He put to death their hostility.¹⁷ He came and preached **peace** to you who were far away and **peace** to those who were near.¹⁸ For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone.²¹ In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.²² And you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit." (NIV)

Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (NIV)

Colossians 3:11 "Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all." (NIV)

Colossians 3:15 "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace." (NIV)

Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." (NIV)

Romans 14:19 "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and mutual edification." (NIV)

Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE

God's PEACE should PROFOUND our PRAISE!

Luke 2:14 "**Glory to God** in the highest, and on earth **peace** to men on whom his favor rests."

Isaiah 26:3 "You will keep in perfect **peace** all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!" (NLT)

2 Thessalonians 3:16 "Now may the Lord of **peace** Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you." (NIV)