

## “The Gospel of Peace”

Ephesians 2:11-22, Ephesians 6:13,15, Philippians 4:6-9  
Tony Toth, Oct 27, 2024

**Ephesians 6:13, 15** “Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm... and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace,”

### I. THE SHOES OF PEACE

### II. THE BATTLE FOR PEACE

#### A. Surrounded By HOSTILITY

**Ephesians 2:12** “remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.”

#### B. Finding Peace With GOD

**Ephesians 2:13** “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”

#### C. Finding Peace With OTHERS

**Ephesians 2:14–16** “For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility,... and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.”

#### D. Finding Peace Within OURSELVES

**Ephesians 2:17** “And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.”

### III. STANDING FIRM WITH READINESS

#### A. Recognize The ENEMIES Of Peace

- STRESS
- NOISE
- CONFLICT

#### B. Recognize BAD PLANS Of Attack

- WORRY
- CONTROL
- PROCRASTINATE

#### C. Recognize The Need To Be PREEMPTIVE

**Philippians 4:6–9** “do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.”

#### THE NEXT FAITHFUL STEP

- 1. Is that real or false?** Discuss with family and friends this week what kinds of false peace are out there and why do we often settle for the unsatisfying alternative?
- 2. Putting on the “readiness” of peace:** Identify the enemies of your peace and write them down. What are potential “bad plans” that come to mind that you know wont work but that the Devil will tempt you with. Now read through Philippians 4:6-9 and start the process of practicing a good game plan for peace.