

Did Jesus Bring Peace or a Sword?

March 13, 2021

Say What?! Pt. 6

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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.*

Matthew 10:34, *Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.*

How Do We Understand Jesus's Sword?

• Jesus's Sword Is SYMBOLIC

Matthew 26:47, *While He was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. 48 Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The One I kiss is the Man; arrest Him." 49 Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him. 50 Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested Him. 51 With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. 52 "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. 53 Do you think I cannot call on My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" 55 In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture Me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest Me. 56 But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted Him and fled.*

Matthew 12:18, *"Here is My servant Whom I have chosen, the One I*

love, in Whom I delight; I will put My Spirit on Him, and He will proclaim justice to the nations. 19 He will not quarrel or cry out; no one will hear His voice in the streets. 20 A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out, till He has brought justice through to victory. 21 In His name the nations will put their hope.”
[Isaiah 42:1-4]

• **Jesus’s Sword Is Used AGAINST THE WORLD**

Matthew 10:34, *Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.*

Matthew 10:16, *“I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. 17 Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. 18 On My account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. 19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.*

• **Jesus’s Sword Communicates DIVISION**

Matthew 10:21, *“Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. 22 You will be hated by everyone because of Me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. 23 When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. 24 “The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!*

Matthew 10:35, *For I have come to turn “‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law— 36 a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’ 37 “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. 38 Whoever does not take up their cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. 39 Whoever finds their life will lose it,*

and whoever loses their life for My sake will find it.

How Do We Understand Jesus's Peace?

• Jesus's Peace Brings RECONCILIATION

John 14:15, *"If you love Me, keep My commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.*

John 14:20, *On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. 21 Whoever has My commands and keeps them is the one who loves Me. The one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love them and show Myself to them."*

• Jesus's Peace Brings CLARITY

John 14:22, *Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do You intend to show Yourself to us and not to the world?" 23 Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves Me will obey My teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24 Anyone who does not love Me will not obey My teaching. These words you hear are not My own; they belong to the Father Who sent Me. 25 "All this I have spoken while still with you. 26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*

• Jesus's Peace Brings COMFORT

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.*

John 14:18, *I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live.*

How Do We Understand These Passages Together?

Followers of Jesus will EXPERIENCE CONFLICT WITH THE WORLD but should BE ENCOURAGED for they have PEACE

WITH GOD!

Matthew 10:26, *"So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. 27 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. 28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One Who can destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*

Philippians 4:6, *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, 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.*