

## In Search of ...Peace

Jeremiah 29:4-11

Pew Bible Page 1221

Memory Verse:

*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.*  
—Jeremiah 29:11 (KJV)

**1. Meaning of Peace**

Old Testament, Shalom, שְׁלוֹמַי

Soundness, completeness, security, welfare, peace,

New Testament, ειρήνη, ei-rā'-nā

Harmony, concord, security, safety, assurance

- Peace of mind—internal, mental, and emotional.
- Health and wholeness—body, soul, and mind.
- Right relationship—between friends, family, and people.
- Absence of war between nations.
- Right relationship with God.

More than a greeting (Gen. 43:27, Exodus 18:7)

Pronouncement of blessing (Luke 10:5)

Paul's Greetings in the Epistles (Romans 1:7, 1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, Philippians 1:2, Col. 1:2, 1 Thessalonians 1:1, 2 Thessalonians 1:2, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4, Philemon 1:30, and Hebrews 13:20—benediction)

**2. Peace Begins and Ends in Jesus**

*“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”*

—Revelations 22:13

*“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*

—John 16:33 (14:27)

*“If only you would have known the things that make for peace.”*

—Luke 19:42 (Jesus wept over Jerusalem)

**Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs**

Abraham Maslow (humanist psychologist)

**Physiological Needs**—biological needs, air, food, water, shelter.

James 2:16-17 \_\_\_\_\_

Philippians 4:19 \_\_\_\_\_

**Safety Needs**—The need for security, especially in emergencies or civil disorganization.

Matthew 6:34 \_\_\_\_\_

Philippians 4:6- 7 \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 2:4b \_\_\_\_\_

**Needs of Love, Affection and Belonging**—Overcoming feelings of loneliness and alienation, the giving and receiving of love, affections, and the sense of belonging.

To Save a Life \_\_\_\_\_

No Walls (Zechariah 2:4-5) \_\_\_\_\_

**Needs for Esteem**—To feel self-confident and valuable in the world, having self-respect and the respect of others.

Luke 10:27 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Corinthians 12:27 \_\_\_\_\_

**Needs for Self-Actualization**—doing what a person was “born to do,” making a difference.

Ephesians 2:10 \_\_\_\_\_

John 10:10 \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Christianity, a **Pursuit** of Peace

*“ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,...<sup>19</sup> Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.”* —Romans 14:17, 19

*“For, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. <sup>11</sup> They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it.”* —1 Peter 3:10-11

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”* —Matthew 5:9

*“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”*  
—Romans 12:18