

He Brings Peace Ephesians 2:13-17

I. Intro

- A. What is your favorite thing to bring to a gathering?
 - 1. Some are really good at knuckleheadedness.
 - 2. Some are good at drama
 - 3. Some are good at bringing nothing
- B. CHRIST brought PEACE for believers
- C. But not everyone is at peace with God through Jesus.
 - 1. There is a lot of fear
 - 2. There is a lot of anger
 - 3. There is a lot of anxiety
 - 4. The challenge today is to allow God to bring peace through Jesus.

II. Text

- A. Verse 13 recap
- B. Verse 14:
 - 1. The far off and the brought near are brought together in one
 - 2. The barrier has been broken down
 - 3. We are now together in the new covenant
- C. Verse 15:
 - 1. By abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances:
 - a) Christ fulfilled the law,
 - b) He accomplished the letter and heart of the law
 - 2. One new man, under the one covenant, with one plan for salvation.
- D. Verse 16:
 - 1. Killing the hostility
 - 2. There is no more division
- E. Verse 17:
 - 1. Peace to those far off
 - 2. Peace to those near
 - 3. There is only one plan, and its not a Jewish plan, or a baptist plan, or a Bible church plan, it is the GOSPEL of the NEW COVENANT!

III. Points

- A. He Brings Peace for Believers
 - 1. John 14 25 "These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. 28 You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. 29 And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. 30 I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, 31 but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.
 - 2. There will be division for those in unbelief, the dividing wall is no longer the law or lineage, but believing in Jesus.
 - a) Peace will not come through the law
 - b) Peace will not come through religion
 - c) Peace will not come through ignorance
 - d) Peace will not come through philosophy
 - e) Peace will not come through a well thought out argument
 - f) Peace only comes through Christ.

3. Jesus brought a path to peace for those far off, and those near.
 4. This is the only true and lasting peace.
- B. He Brings Restoration
1. The Peace provided by our savior brings restoration.
 2. This is not partial restoration, but complete restoration.
 3. To believe God's promise fulfilled in Messiah:
 - a) Sins are forgiven
 - b) Death is swallowed up in victory
 - c) Broken relationship with God is restored
 - d) Fallen humanity is reconciled to HOLY GOD!
 4. The restoration process is thorough and complete in Christ.
 5. We see the majesty of the power of God and the kindness of our savior in what brought about our restoration.
 6. When sin entered the human race through Adam, death ruled
 7. Now, we can experience restoration and HOPE!
- C. He Brings Hope
1. Hope is a beautiful thing, and today in the Lord's supper, we are reminded of this hope.
 2. Do this, UNTIL HE COMES!
 3. 1 Corinthians 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
 4. I have HOPE today because of Jesus!
- IV. Close
- A. Lord's supper
 - B. Step out and believe today!

[Eph 2:13-17 ESV] 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.