

LENT DEVOTION

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A believer, the righteous one in God's sight, is also a person who has peace with God. In spite of the circumstances he/she has the privilege to "be still and to know God" (Psalm 46:1) that God is in control and "to taste and see that the Lord is so good" (Psalm 34:8) all the time. The "Peace with God" not only gives the "peace of mind" to a person but also enables him/her to find peace with others and in the process to become a person of peace. "Blessed are the peace makers for they will be called the son's (daughters) of God (Matthew 5:9)."

A believer is primarily a "peace maker" and not just a peace keeper. The responsibility of a peace maker is much more difficult and painful than the peace keeper. The peace keeper need not discuss or deal with the problem or the issue that destroys peace. He/She can avoid the real issue and maintain peace just like the peace-keeping forces do. They cannot arrive at any permanent peaceful solutions but just maintain peace for sometime till the solution arrives.

But a believer is mature enough to discuss and to deal with the problem and pays the price to arrive at solutions for permanent peace. That is what God did to solve the problem of sin. "Since the children have flesh and blood, Jesus Christ too shared in their humanity so that by His death, He might destroy him who holds the power of death -- that is, the devil -- and free those whose lives were held in slavery by their fear of death" (Hebrews 2:14). Jesus Christ "was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification" (Romans 4:25) and made "peace through His blood" (Colossians 1:20).

Thus, God brought the "peace with God" and gives the "peace of God" in minds of the righteous ones, helping them to be the "peace makers" and not just "peace keepers" -- though it is also important.