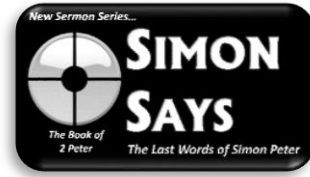




PASTOR BOB  
August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017



**“WORK for PEACE!”**  
2 PETER 3:14

“PEACE” - to \_\_\_\_\_ or tie \_\_\_\_\_ into a whole.

Peace takes \_\_\_\_\_! PSALM 34:14

*Peace is such a precious jewel, that I would give anything for it but truth.* ~MATTHEW HENRY

*Work for...*

1. PEACE with \_\_\_\_\_ ROMANS 5:1

- OUR “GOD-SHAPED” VACUUM ECCLESIASTES 3:11; JOHN 17:3

*“If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world.”*

~C.S. LEWIS

*Work for...*

2. PEACE of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ PHILIPPIANS 4:6, 7

- *Duke University Study* PSALM 139:23, 24

*Work for...*

3. PEACE with \_\_\_\_\_ ROMANS 12:18

**Peace Killers!**

- \_\_\_\_\_ PROVERBS 16:28
- *Following* \_\_\_\_\_ *over* \_\_\_\_\_ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-13; JOHN 3:30; EPHESIANS 2:13, 14

MATTHEW 5:9 *God blesses those who work for peace,  
for they will be called the children of God.*

**DUKE UNIVERSITY did a study on "peace of mind." Factors found to contribute greatly to emotional and mental stability are:**

- 1) **The absence of suspicion and resentment.** Nursing a grudge was a major factor in unhappiness.  
*Pray for release from suspicion and resentment, and let go of the grudge.*
- 2) **Not living in the past.** An unwholesome preoccupation with old mistakes and failures leads to depression.  
*Pray to let go of past failures and accept God's forgiveness and hope.*
- 3) **Not wasting time and energy fighting conditions you cannot change.** Cooperate with life, instead of trying to run away from it. *Pray to accept things you cannot change...*
- 4) **Force yourself to stay involved with the living world.** Resist the temptation to withdraw and become reclusive during periods of emotional stress. *Pray for purpose and involvement.*
- 5) **Refuse to indulge in self-pity when life hands you a raw deal.** Accept the fact that nobody gets through life without some sorrow and misfortune. *Cast your cares upon the Lord.*
- 6) **Cultivate the old-fashioned virtues--love, humor, compassion and loyalty.** *Pray the Fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life.*
- 7) **Do not expect too much of yourself.** When there is too wide a gap between self-expectation and your ability to meet the goals you have set, feelings of inadequacy are inevitable. *Pray for a sober self-image.*
- 8) **Find something bigger than yourself to believe in.** Self-centered egotistical people score lowest in any test for measuring happiness. *Pray for your involvement in the Kingdom of Christ.*

**FOOD for THOUGHT**  
**"LIVE in PEACE"**

**GETTING STARTED**

1. What insights or observations from this week's message did you find helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
2. What are the benefits of constantly remembering Jesus is going to return?
3. What influences in our world and ourselves make it difficult to remember Jesus will return?

4. Do you think Jesus will come *before* the Great Tribulation or *after*? Explain.

#### **GOING DEEPER**

- **Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. WHAT will happen when Jesus returns? Does the writer ever say WHEN this will happen in these verses?**
- **Read Matthew 24:29-31. WHEN does Jesus say his return will happen, “before” or “after” the anguish/tribulation of those days (verses 2-28)? (Compare with Mark 13:24-27, and Luke 21:25-28)**
- **Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4. WHEN does the apostle Paul say the coming of the Lord and our gathering to him will happen, “before” or “after” the man of lawlessness is revealed?**
- **Now go back and re-read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and continue reading through chapter 5:1-11. Will the coming of Jesus be a surprise to Christians WHEN it happens, or can we be ready for it? How?**

#### **LIVING OUT**

- **What is one area of your life that the Holy Spirit has challenged you through this study to personally grow? Are there any steps you can take to develop in this area?**