

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE
SERMON OUTLINE
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“God’s Unspeakable Gift of Peace”

2 Corinthians 9:15, Luke 2:7-14

As I continue on the subject of *“God’s Unspeakable Gift”*, today, I want to focus on His Gift of Peace. As many of you know Christmas can be a very stressful time of the year. According to most studies, this is a season of stress and distress, of sadness not gladness.

This morning our attention is on peace. After the one angel appeared to the shepherds in **Luke 2:10** announcing *“good news of great joy that will be for all the people,”* suddenly an entire army of angelic messengers filled the sky with an outpouring of adoration and said in verse 14; *“Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”*

The phrase **“Happy Holidays”** is meaningless without an acknowledgement of the holiness of God. The precondition for peace is to first praise God for His glory and grace. The word *“peace”* appears over 400 times in Scripture. In the Old Testament, *“peace”* is the word **shalom**.

The word **“peace”** in the New Testament means to **“join together; to set at one again.”** It has the idea of **gluing something back together**. Jesus said in *Matthew 5:9*: *“Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.”*

It’s vital to understand that Jesus isn’t referring to being a peace-keeper but rather a peacemaker. The difference is that a peacemaker actively overcomes evil with good. But not everyone is a peacemaker – some are peace-breakers or peace-fakers and some **Peace-MAKERS**.

There are four truths I want to share about

“GOD’S UNSPEAKABLE GIFT OF PEACE”

- I. Peace with God – that’s the vertical dimension - *Romans 5:1* gives the good news
- II. Peace of God – this takes place internally - *John 14:27*
- III. Peace with others – that’s peace horizontally - *Romans 14:19*
- IV. Peace for others – that’s the proclamation of peace in the gospel - *Acts 10:36*