

# **Pray God In**

**5-21-23**

2 Thessalonians 3:16 (ESV)

Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

**The word “may” is not in the original. Removing the word “may” causes the statement to read more like a strong exhortation. More like, Jesus HIMSELF will give you “peace” and we should call on HIM to do so. The last sentence of the verse says, “The Lord be with you all.” This certainly seems to be saying we should be praying God into our circumstances.**

**What is peace?**

**In the beginning there was God = Peace**

**God created the heaven, earth, the universe = Peace**

**God created all the heavenly beings, angels = Peace**

**God created man and woman = Peace**

**Satan rebelled = no peace**

**Man sinned = no peace**

**Thus, the only way to have peace is to come back in line with God. **In fact, it is impossible to ever have true peace until we are aligned with God.****

**Satan is unrepentant and will be will never come back in line with God. Therefore, God will throw him into the Lake of Fire. For mankind, Jesus came to reconcile us to God. Through Jesus we are aligned with God and there is peace. To experience true peace on this earth, we must align ourselves with God.**

**The devotional, Jesus Calling, had an insightful thought about trying to gain peace through our own means: “The wisest of all men, Solomon, could never think his way through to Peace. His vast understanding resulted in feelings of futility, rather than in fulfillment. Finally, he lost his way and fell into worshipping idols.” Absolute truth: Peace will only come through our awareness of Christ. Peace is not dependent on the outward circumstances. That is why we pray God into each situation. “The Lord be with you!”**

**When we say that we are not at peace, the truth is that we are not aligned with God. Jesus “puts us at peace” to the extent that we allow the Holy Spirit to fill us while at the same time praying God into the situation.**

**Caution: Any perceived peace without God is only a pause in evil while wickedness gains strength to return with a greater vengeance. True peace is resting in the arms of Jesus.**

**2 Thessalonians 3:3 (ESV)**

**The Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.**

**Do we believe that Jesus is faithful? If so, we will be at peace because HE will establish us in any situation and guard us like an army against the evil one who is committed to destroying us. We have inner security and outward protection from the author of evil whose activity is so prominent in these letters. Jesus provides a defense against even the touch of the enemy.**

**Peace comes from aligning ourselves with God. Also, this peace is very sensitive to good and evil. When making a decision believers often will say either, “I have a peace about this.” Or “I have a check about this.”**

Colossians 3:15 (ESV)

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

**Let peace the peace of Christ rule! Rule used only here in the NT means “to act as an umpire” or “to arbitrate”. We should do nothing that would violate that peace. Paul’s assurance is grounded in the divine nature. Of course, we are confident that God is always with us guiding us, but also there are times of greater manifestations which God will us to alert us.**

2 Thessalonians 3:5 (ESV)

The Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

**Again the word “may” is not in the original. Removing the word “may” again causes the statement to read more like a stronger exhortation. Jesus HIMSELF will give you peace and this peace will lead us and guide us. Therefore, it is of supreme importance to for us to direct our hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. Confident & Alert!**

**Pray God in!**

Ephesians 3:20 (ESV)

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us.