

Christmas Foundations: Peace

True hope is confidence and joy in the already determined result that God will fulfill his promises.

We can stand firm in the fact that Jesus is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Isaiah 40:2

5 In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. 7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

8 Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, 9 according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. 10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. 11 And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, 15 for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. 16 And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, 17 and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared." Luke 1:5-17

We wrongly assume that God stops listening when He doesn't answer our prayers when we think He should?

When we say that we are at peace with something, it often means that in most cases we have given up.

seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:33

Prayers for personal peace will be answered as we pray for the peace of all mankind.

Advent Week Two Reading Guide:

Sunday: Luke 1:5-7

Monday: Luke 1:57-79

Tuesday: Matthew 3:1-12

Wednesday: Luke 1:26-38

Thursday: Luke 1:46-56

Friday: Luke 1:46-56

Saturday: Matthew 1:18-25