



## REASONING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

### *Weekly Bible Study*

#### **But what about that Peace?**

**Key Verses:** [Matt 10:34-42](#)

#### **It Was Foretold That the Christ Would Bring Peace**

[Isa 9:6](#) is one such passage, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Indeed, when the child was born in Bethlehem, the angels announced the event with these words, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14).

#### **During His Lifetime Jesus Gave His Peace to Those Who Believed on Him**

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. . . ." ([John 14:27](#)). He distinguished His peace from peace as the world understands it: the absence of war on earth. What He brought instead was a reconciliation between God and man. Paul concludes in [Rom 5:1](#), "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Faith, however, was required of those seeking His peace. As the Apostle John states in the prologue to his gospel, "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God" (v. 12).

Those who did not receive Him, however, remained in a state of alienation from God and His people. That is what Jesus meant when He said to His disciples, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword" ([Matt 10:34](#)). The antagonism of the unbeliever toward Jesus and His followers is such that it will even destroy the closest family relationships ([Matt 10:35](#)). Jesus Himself experienced misunderstanding in His own household ([Matt 13:53-58](#); [John 7:5](#)), but they were later reconciled to Him ([Acts 1:14](#)).

#### **We Now Live in a State of Spiritual War**

Jesus taught that war will be waged within the institutional church. In it there will be false shepherds and sheep ([John 10:1-10](#)), wheat and tares ([Matt 13:24-30,36-43](#)) and good and bad fish ([Matt 13:47-50](#)). Although there will be the pure who see God ([Matt 5:8](#)), there will also be those within the church who try to satisfy the pleasures of the flesh and are proud ([Luke 22:24](#); [James 4:6](#)), worldly ([1 John 2:15](#)) and backbiting ([Gal 5:15](#)).

The return of Jesus, however, will fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah for future peace ([Isa 9:7](#)) when the unrighteous will be separated from the believers and destroyed ([Matt 13:39-43,49,50](#)).