

Seek Peace

By Mitchell Kuhn

1Pe 3:10 (ESV) For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;

1Pe 3:11 (ESV) let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

G1515

- Original: **εἰρήνη**

- Transliteration: **Eirene**

- Phonetic: **i-ray'-nay**

- Definition:

1. a state of national tranquillity

a. exemption from the rage and havoc of war

2. peace between individuals, i.e. harmony, concord

We naturally do not have peace within ourselves.

Jer 6:13 (NKJV) "Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone *is* given to covetousness; And from the prophet even to the priest, Everyone deals falsely.

Jer 6:14 (NKJV) They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, **Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When *there is no peace.***

Mat 23:25 (NKJV) "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.

Mat 23:26 (NKJV) Blind Pharisee, **first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.**

What is the inside of the cup? Where is the war taking place?

Eph 6:12 (NKJV) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, **against spiritual *hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.***

Luk 17:20 (NKJV) Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation;

Luk 17:21 (NKJV) nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' **For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."**

The kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God are the same thing:

(Mat 19:23 NKJV) Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.

(Mat 19:24 NKJV) And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2014-02/the-kingdom-of-heaven-and-parables/>

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2012-10/what-and-where-is-heaven/>

So how do we enter the kingdom of God and have peace in our hearts and minds?

Mat 18:8 (NKJV) "If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast *it* from you. It is better for you **to enter into life** lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire.

Mat 18:9 (NKJV) And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast *it* from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.

Heb 12:1 (NKJV) Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight**, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

What needs to be cut off? Where are these weights that need to be cast off?

Mat 7:3 (NKJV) And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, **but do not consider the plank in your own eye?**

Mat 7:4 (NKJV) Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank *is* in your own eye?

Mat 7:5 (NKJV) Hypocrite! **First remove the plank from your own eye**, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

We must always start with ourselves first and then consider our brother. Who is it that we are to judge after ourselves?

1Co 5:9 (NKJV) I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people.

1Co 5:10 (NKJV) Yet *I* certainly *did* not *mean* with the sexually immoral **people of this world**, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.

1Co 5:11 (NKJV) But now I have written to you **not to keep company with anyone named a brother**, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person.

1Co 5:12 (NKJV) **For what *have I to do* with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside?**

1Co 5:13 (NKJV) But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "PUT AWAY FROM YOURSELVES THE EVIL PERSON."

Getting tangled up in the politics of this world is a common way that we judge those who are outside and lose focus on our true mission.

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2016-04/christians-and-politics/>

There is a specific process we need to follow when judging those in our midst, after we have taken the plank from our own eye.

This study on "Correction in the Body of Christ" will help you understand how to do this properly.

<http://tryingthespirits.com/body-of-christ/>

I will highlight one key aspect of this process that is often overlooked.

Mat 18:15 (NKJV) "Moreover if your brother sins against you, **go and tell him his fault between you and him alone.** If he hears you, you have gained your brother.

This is the opposite of gossip.

Lev 19:16 (ESV) **You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people,** and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

Lev 19:17 (ESV) "You shall not hate your brother in your heart, **but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor,** lest you incur sin because of him.

Lev 19:17 (MKJV) You shall not hate your brother in your heart. **You shall always rebuke your neighbor,** and not allow sin on him.

1Pe 4:8 (NKJV) And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "LOVE WILL COVER A MULTITUDE OF SINS."

Eph 4:1 (NKJV) I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

Eph 4:2 (NKJV) **with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,**

Eph 4:3 (NKJV) endeavoring to keep **the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

What is in our hearts?

Luk 6:45 (NKJV) A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

If we are not willing to go to our brother directly, and instead spread slander about him, our heart is full of evil. This will not lead to peace, but strife and war.

Pro 6:16 (NKJV) These six *things* the LORD hates, Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him:

Pro 6:19 (NKJV) A false witness *who* speaks lies, **And one who sows discord among brethren.**

If we want peace, we will love to be corrected by our brethren.

Pro 9:8 (NKJV) Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; **Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.**

Jas 3:17 (NKJV) But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, **willing to yield** (easy to be entreated), full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

Jas 3:18 (NKJV) **Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.**

Mat 5:9 (NKJV) Blessed *are* the **peacemakers**, For they shall be called sons of God.

Mar 9:50 (NKJV) Salt *is* good, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, **and have peace with one another."**

1Th 5:12 (NKJV) And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

1Th 5:13 (NKJV) and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. **Be at peace among yourselves.**

Rom 12:18 (ESV) If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Rom 12:19 (ESV) Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Rom 12:20 (ESV) To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."

Rom 12:21 (ESV) Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The only way to obtain peace is through the sword, the word of God.

Mat 10:34 (ESV) "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, **but a sword.**

Mat 10:35 (ESV) For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.

Mat 10:36 (ESV) And a person's enemies will be those of his own household.

Heb 4:12 (NKJV) For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, **and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

Deu 20:16 (NKJV) "But of the cities of these peoples which the LORD your God gives you *as* an inheritance, **you shall let nothing that breathes remain alive,**

Deu 20:17 (NKJV) but you shall utterly destroy them: the Hittite and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, just as the LORD your God has commanded you,

Deu 20:18 (NKJV) lest they teach you to do according to all their abominations which they have done for their gods, and you sin against the LORD your God.

2Co 10:4 (NKJV) For the weapons of our warfare **are not carnal** but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

2Co 10:5 (NKJV) casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,**

2Co 10:6 (NKJV) and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

What happens when we do NOT kill everything that breathes?

1Sa 15:3 (NKJV) Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. **But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'** "

1Sa 15:14 (NKJV) But Samuel said, "**What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?**"

1Sa 15:15 (NKJV) And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed."

1Sa 15:16 (NKJV) Then Samuel said to Saul, "Be quiet! And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night." And he said to him, "Speak on."

1Sa 15:17 (NKJV) So Samuel said, "When you *were* little in your own eyes, *were* you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel?"

1Sa 15:18 (NKJV) Now the LORD sent you on a mission, and said, 'Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.'

1Sa 15:19 (NKJV) **Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD?** Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?"

1Sa 15:20 (NKJV) And Saul said to Samuel, "But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites."

1Sa 15:21 (NKJV) But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal."

1Sa 15:22 (NKJV) So Samuel said: "Has the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, *As* in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, *And* to heed than the fat of rams."

1Sa 15:23 (NKJV) For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from *being* king."

1Sa 15:24 (NKJV) Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.

1Sa 15:25 (NKJV) Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD."

1Sa 15:26 (NKJV) But Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel."

1Sa 15:27 (NKJV) And as Samuel turned around to go away, *Saul* seized the edge of his robe, and it tore.

1Sa 15:28 (NKJV) So Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, *who is* better than you.

1Sa 15:29 (NKJV) And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He *is* not a man, that He should relent."

1Sa 15:30 (NKJV) Then he said, "I have sinned; *yet* honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD your God."

1Sa 15:31 (NKJV) So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped the LORD.

1Sa 15:32 (NKJV) Then Samuel said, "Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me." So Agag came to him cautiously. And Agag said, "Surely the bitterness of death is past."

1Sa 15:33 (NKJV) But Samuel said, "As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women." And Samuel hacked Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

1Sa 15:34 (NKJV) Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul.

1Sa 15:35 (NKJV) And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2013-02/a-little-leaven/>