

A PRAYER FOR THE PEACE OF GOD

Jesus, you are the Prince of Peace. You commanded the winds, "Peace, be still!" At the sound of your voice, they ceased, and there was a great calm. You still the raging oceans, the roar of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations. Of the increase of your government and peace there will be no end.

You speak to your people, giving them strength, and blessing them with peace. You speak that in you, we might have perfect peace, wholeness, and well-being. Speak to our hearts that we might have consolation in you and that peace might reign in our hearts. We posture our hearts to hear your voice. You said, "Peace be with you. My peace I give to you. Peace, I leave with you."

In this world we endure tribulation, but we rejoice because you have overcome the world. Let not our hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You will keep in perfect peace, those whose hearts and minds are fixed on you, because they trust in you. We fix our eyes on you, our hearts, and minds too.

Great peace have those who love your instruction. Guide our feet into the way of peace and let us know the things that make for our peace. Let our hearts keep your commandments; for they are peace and long life. The future of the blameless is peace. The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness, and assurance forever. Let our hearts open wide so salvation and righteousness can spring up together. Let righteous flow like a river, like a never-ending stream. Let us be those who proclaims peace and are makers of peace. Let us go out with joy and be led out with peace.

In the places where we have fallen short, we ask for mercy. For surely, you were pierced for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon you, and by your stripes we are healed. Let mercy and truth meet, and righteousness and peace come together. We delight ourselves in the abundance of your peace, as we surrender to your love.

Oh Lord, bless us and keep us; make your face shine upon us, and be gracious to us; lift up your countenance upon us, and give us peace. Extend peace to us like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream. As we enter shalom, let your church become a refuge for the stranger, the outcast, the lowly, the disenfranchised, the poor, and the marginalized. A place where all peoples are nurtured, carried in your arms, and experience your delight.