

REDISCOVER CHRISTMAS

GOOD NEWS IN TROUBLING TIMES

ADVENT

“FINDING PEACE IN OUR STRUGGLES”

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8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

Luke 2:8-10, NIV

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11 “For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior,
who is Christ the Lord.

12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped
in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:11-12, NKJV

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13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

14 "Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

Luke 2:13-14, NKJV

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15 So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

16 And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Luke 2:15-16, NKJV

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Three insights about our
own intersection with
God's peace during a
violent storm.



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I. Peace comes in the midst of our storms.

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35 On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side."

36 Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him.

37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling.

38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

Mark 4:35-38, NKJV

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39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!"
And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no
faith?"

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be,
that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Mark 4:39-41, NKJV

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II. Peace defies our circumstances.

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4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your
hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7, NIV

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III. Peace is a person.

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For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation.

Ephesians 2:14, NKJV

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51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom;
and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,

52 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen
asleep were raised;

53 and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the
holy city and appeared to many.

Matthew 27:51-53, NKJV

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Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16, NKJV

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