

Hebrews Series

Lesson #206

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Hebrews 12:14–15

**Pursuing Peace:
Reconciliation, Forgiveness, Love**

Heb. 12:14, “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:”

Heb. 12:14, “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:”

διώκω (dioko) –

Present active imperative 2PL: make it a habit

“to move rapidly and decisively toward an objective—hasten, run, press forward”

“pursue, strive for, seek after, aspire to something”

Heb. 12:14, “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:”

1 Thessalonians 5:15, “See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always **seek after that which is good for one another and for all *people*.”**

Heb. 12:14, “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:”

ἁγιασμός (*hagiasmos*) –

“holiness, consecration, sanctification”

Phase 2 sanctification—living the Christian way of life.

God is identified as the God of peace numerous times in Scripture.

2 Cor. 13:11, “Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”

Phil. 4:9, “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”

God is identified as the God of peace numerous times in Scripture.

Heb. 13:20, “Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,”

1 Th. 5:23, “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely;”

2. The God of peace is the one who blesses those who follow Him with peace.

Psa. 29:11, “The LORD will give strength to His people; the LORD will bless His people with peace.”

Lev. 26:6, “I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make *you* afraid; I will rid the land of evil beasts, and the sword will not go through your land.”

3. God commands His people to seek and pursue peace with all.

Psa. 34:14, “Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.”

3. God commands His people to seek and pursue peace with all.

Rom. 14:19, “Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.”

1 Cor. 7:15, “... But God has called us to peace.”

3. God commands His people to seek and pursue peace with all.

1 Th. 5:13, “... Be at peace among yourselves.”

4. God describes His New Covenant as a covenant of peace.

Isa. 54:10, “ ‘For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but My kindness shall not depart from you, nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,’ says the LORD, who has mercy on you.”

Ezek. 34:25, “I will make a covenant of peace with them, and cause wild beasts to cease from the land; and they will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.”

4. God describes His New Covenant as a covenant of peace.

Ezek. 37:26, “Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore.”

5. Peace, *shalom* in the Hebrew and *eirene* in the Greek, are forms of greeting in Scripture.

Judg. 6:23, “Then the LORD said to him, ‘Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die.’ ”

1 Sam. 16:5, “And he said, ‘Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.’ Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.”

5. Peace, *shalom* in the Hebrew and *eirene* in the Greek, are forms of greeting in Scripture.

Luke 24:36, “Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, ‘Peace to you.’ ”

6. Peace with God is the foundational message of the gospel.

Luke 2:14, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

7. The only basis for understanding how to achieve this is to examine the dynamics of the most extreme conflict in history: the rebellion of man the creature against God.

Rom. 5:1, “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rom. 5:2, “through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

7. The only basis for understanding how to achieve this is to examine the dynamics of the most extreme conflict in history: the rebellion of man the creature against God.

Col. 1:19, “For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,

Col. 1:20, “and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.”

7. The only basis for understanding how to achieve this is to examine the dynamics of the most extreme conflict in history: the rebellion of man the creature against God.

Col. 1:21, “And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

Col. 1:22, “in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—”

8. Peace with God is accomplished only because the sin problem is dealt with.

Col. 1:14, “in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

8. Peace with God is accomplished only because the sin problem is dealt with.

Col. 2:13, “And you, [when you were] being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, [because He] forgave you all trespasses,

Col. 2:14, “[by wiping] out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”

Two Key Elements Are the Basis of Peace:

Grace

Love

Rom. 5:8, “But God demonstrated his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

Love is primarily a volitional act and a mental attitude. We choose to love and we set our mind.

Matt. 5:44, “But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,”

Love is primarily a volitional act and a mental attitude. We choose to love and we set our mind.

Luke 6:27, “But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,”

Luke 6:32, “But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.”

Luke 6:35, “But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.”

Love is primarily a volitional act and a mental attitude. We choose to love and we set our mind.

John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

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9. This is the basis for peace with others and unity (Eph. 2:11–18)

Psa. 133:1, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

**Isa. 26:3, “You will keep him in perfect peace,
whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts
in You.”**

Isa. 32:17, “The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.”

Isa. 48:18, “Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.”

John 14:27, “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”