

## Part Two – “Peace Be Unto You”

We learned in Part One that in order to have peace we must first have peace with God. The way that we have peace with God is through accepting Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Once we have done that the Holy Spirit comes and resides on the inside, along with His character, which is the Fruit of the Spirit. One of the fruit of the spirit is peace.

We operate in peace by trusting that God is who He says He is. He is Jehovah Jireh, the Lord our provider; therefore I can trust that He will supply all my needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus. He is Jehovah Rappa, the Lord that healeth thee. I can rest and be assured in knowing that by His stripes I am healed and that no weapon formed against me shall prosper.

Another way that we operate in peace is by having peace with ourselves. This may be the most difficult obstacle that we may have to overcome. We can be so much harder on ourselves than we are on other people. The battlefield is in the mind, which will continue to remind us of how we failed God. We have to quiet our mind by speaking God’s word that says in 1 John 1:9, “That if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

We may blame ourselves for the bad decisions our children make. Not considering the fact that children have a free will. You can teach them right from wrong, have them in church 24/7, but it will be totally up to them to choose between good and evil.

Before I had kids I was one of those people who looked at parents and said it must be something they did or did not do as to why their children are acting out. I am not going to be like that when I have children. Then I had children of my own and trust me that changed my thinking quickly. I have to stand on God’s word that says in

Proverbs 22:6, “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

I wasn't a perfect parent (and neither are you). Sure there are some things I would have done differently. But I can't get stuck there; I have to continue to move forward. Realizing that Romans 8:1-2 says, “There is therefore, now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.” Thank you Jesus. I bless God for the opportunity to be a better grandparent than I was a parent.

The message that the Holy Spirit really wants to relay to you is that whatever you are struggling with once you confess your sins and truly repent from the heart, God is faithful and just to forgive you. He has cast our sins as far as the east is from the west. His grace (unearned favor) and his mercy endureth forever. We are to cast our cares on Him because he cares so much for us. Give it over to him and finally just let it go. Once you do that you will experience the peace that passeth all understanding and finally be able to just rest in knowing that all things work together for good.

In the next session we will look at having peace with our fellow man. We can now have peace with our fellow man because we have made peace with God and with ourselves. If you don't have peace with God and with yourself there is no way you will have peace with your fellow man.

God bless you.