

GOD'S CHILD OF PEACE

Scripture Reading:

Luke 1:66-80

INTRODUCTION

Peace is the absence of conflict.



Conflict is the basis of fear.



Therefore, peace is the absence of fear

INTRODUCTION

- **All people of the World System
crave peace - the freedom from
conflict and fear.**

INTRODUCTION

- Through human government, the World System attempts to control the external conflicts that erupt among people and nations
 - Through the United Nations
 - Through tenuous treaties that are made and broken
- On the other hand, the God of the universe is the only One who has all power, wisdom, and righteousness that is truly able to control ALL the conflicts

INTRODUCTION

- In the account of Christ's birth from the gospel of Luke, chapters 1 & 2, we find the peace that comes from God mentioned three times.

ABSENCE OF CONFLICT THROUGH PEACE WITH GOD

- Absence of conflict from Israel's enemies
 - Lk 1:69-74
- Promised salvation from Israel's enemies through Abrahamic Covenant
 - Lk 1:72-73, cf Gen 22:17
 - The singular Seed, Christ, would defeat their enemies
- First each person in Israel needed to make peace with God
 - Lk 1:68, 76-79; cf Rom 3:17, 5:1, Acts 10:36

ABSENCE OF CONFLICT (PEACE) FOR THOSE HOLDING A GOOD OPINION OF GOD

- The world's understanding of peace
 - I Thess 5:3, cf Rev 6:3-4
- The believers understanding of peace (those holding a good opinion of who God is and what He has said) is based upon God's absolute good, wise, and righteous control of all events in our lives
 - Jn 14:27, Heb 14:5, Phil 4:12-13

SIMEON'S ABSENCE OF CONFLICT (PEACE)

LUKE 2:25-30

His conflict – the consolation of Israel (vs 25)

His promise – He would not die before he had seen Jehovah's Messiah (vs 26)

His departure in peace (vs 29-30)

CONCLUSION

- To the world, Jesus is “the baby peace child” – one who demonstrated benevolent care and died a martyr’s death in order to encourage everyone else to stand for the welfare of mankind
 - Examples: Gandhi, Mother Theresa, etc
- To the grace believer, peace comes from
 - Our peace WITH God (Rom 5:4), and
 - Our peace FROM God (Phil 4:5-7,9)