Silent Night

December 13, 2015

Part 2: War and Peace

Silent Night

(Luke 2:10-14) "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

(John 14:27 LB) "I am leaving you with a gift – peace of mind and heart! And the peace I give isn't fragile like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid."

War

| (Psalms 120:6-7) "Too long have I lived among those who hate peace am a man of peace; but when I speak, they are for war." |
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(James 3:14-16) "But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice."

Peace

(Ephesians 2:12-14) "Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ...without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility."

1. You won't find peace until you ______

(James 3:17–18) "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness."

(Matthew 5:9) "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God."

2. You make peace through _____

(2 Corinthians 5:18-21) "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

3. You can't reconcile until you've been

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(Proverbs 16:6-7) "Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through the fear of the LORD a man avoids evil. When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him."

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War

(Psalms 120:6-7) "Too long have I lived among those who hate peace. I am a man of peace; but when I speak, they are for war."

- ✓ Distance.
- ✓ Walls.
- ✓ Escalation.
- ✓ False belief.
- ✓ Hostility.
- ✓ War.

(James 3:14-16) "But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice."

Peace

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1. You won't find peace until you make peace.

(James 3:17–18) "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness."

(Matthew 5:9) "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God."

2. You make peace through <u>reconciliation</u>.

(2 Corinthians 5:18-21) "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

3. You can't reconcile until you've been reconciled.

(Proverbs 16:6-7) "Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through the fear of the LORD a man avoids evil. When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him."

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