

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 28

“9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God:”
(Matthew 5:9 KJV)

Blessed are the peacemakers: Peacemaker between men and men, are they who are of peaceable inclination to live peaceably with all men, and with one another; as their relation obliges them to deal with the men of the world who are ready, and willing to live in peace. The peacemakers make peace between themselves and other men based on the Word of God.

Peacemakers will achieve the followings:

1. To deal first with sin whenever that is possible: God said about Levi, **“My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name.”** (Malachi 2:5 KJV) The disciples of Levi brought men to be in peace with God’s law. They created peace and arranged the atmosphere of peace. We can read about this in the Scriptures when Phinehas dealt with the sin of immorality in the camp of the Israelites by putting to death those who committed immorality, and he brought the peace of God back to the camp of God when he purged it from sin, **“11 Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy. 12 Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace:”** (Numbers 25:11-12 KJV) So peacemakers they have assignments that they need to fulfill in order to bring peace. We need to deal with sin in order to bring the people in peace with the law of God.

So peacemakers are hard working and are diligently struggling in order to bring peace. The peacemakers start their journey with evangelism reaching out the sinners and teaching them God’s Word.

For they shall be called the children of God: The peacemakers are the children of God by the adopting grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and they are the sons of God by their peacemaker attitude and character in dealing with sin, and that done in them by the Spirit of God. They are the great and only peacemaker, and they are truly the sons of peace.

The peacemakers are happy, filled with joy as they are moving forward to bring sinners to God. In **James 3:17**, **“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”** The wisdom that is from above is first pure, and then peaceable. The blessed peacemakers are pure in heart toward God, and peaceable toward men.

When we have pure heart, and we don’t have malice or evil doings toward God and men, then we can be peacemakers.

To be pure in heart and to be peacemakers, that will make your conscience void of offences.

2. To protect themselves whenever there are offenses against them and to avoid creating conflict whenever that is feasible:

A. The peacemakers have inclination to have a strong and hearty affection to peace: King David said, **“I am for peace”**. It is to desire, and delight to be put in peace. Let us read the whole **Psalms 120**, **“1 In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me. 2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue. 3 What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue? 4 Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper. 5 Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar! 6 My soul hath long dwelt with him that hateth peace. 7 I am for peace: but when I speak, they are for war.”** (Psalm 120:1-7 KJV)

“1 In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.” (Psalm 120:1 KJV) Peacemaking will lead us to cry to God when we are in distress and when we are attacked. He will hear us when we cry to Him, **“2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue.”** (Psalm 120:2 KJV) Our Lord will deliver us from the lying lips and from deceitful tongues. Lying lips and tongues are those who cook stories against us and harm us with their slander. This has often been the lot not only of the innocent, but of the excellent ones, of the earth, who have been greatly distressed by lying lips, and have not only had their names blackened and made odious but their lives, and all that are dear to them in this world was endangered by false witnesses and slanderers.

Therefore to initiate peace it might face failures because the people whom we want to do peace with them are telling lies and are deceivers. Certain times we are dealing with people who are evil doers and are hiding their wrong motives and wrong doings. We work for peace, they pretend peace just a mask over their faces, but in reality they are in war against us and against what we are doing. Therefore King David proceeded and said, **“3 What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue?”** (Psalm 120:3 KJV) in which he is addressing those who are with such resistance to peace with their malice, hidden hatred and sins that needed to be judged being with false tongue who tell lies and hide wickedness, and from inside are malice and heinous plans but they put mask to pretend holiness. **What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue?** David is telling them a warning; that something will be done and something harmful from God will be given to them as recompense to their lies, betrayal, and conspiracy. We as peacemakers when are faced with such kind of people we need to warn them about the coming judgment of God if they will not repent.

This **Psalms 120** is supposed to have been penned by David upon the occasion of Doeg’s accusing him and the priests to Saul, and that caused the death of the priests and their families and the destruction of their city, Nob, by Doeg the chief shepherd of Saul, and that followed that David forced out and away from the congregation of the Lord. We can read the story of that in **1 Samuel 21** and **22**. Here David in **Psalms 120** announcing the judgment of God on Doeg, **“4 Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper.”** (Psalm 120:4 KJV) The doom of a false tongue foretold by faith, in verses 3 and 4. As God will preserve His people from this mischievous generation, so He will deal with their enemies. God will deal with their lies by burning their lying tongue and lips with coal made of the broom plant. The threatening in verses 3 and 4 is addressed to Doeg, for the

awakening of his conscience, if he have any conscience left. David was telling to him: 'Consider what shall be given unto thee, and what shall be done unto thee, by the righteous Judge of heaven and earth, thou with false tongue.' As peacemakers when we work for peace we need to tell to those people who are harming us the truth, that they may get persuaded with the truth that we are telling to them of what will happen to them if they will not give up their sins and their wrongdoings against us. Surely sinners will not do as they do if they knew, and would be persuaded to think, what will be in the end happen to them. Let liars consider that what shall be given to them, are sharp arrows of the Almighty, with coals of juniper, that is, they will fall and lay for ever under the wrath of God, in hell, and will be made miserable by the tokens of His displeasure, which will fly swiftly like arrows, and will strike the sinner when he is not aware and when he sees not who hurts him.

This is a threatening toward liars: God shall shoot at them with an arrow; and suddenly shall they be wounded. Not only against liars but against those who do evil, sin against us and harm us while we are in our mission to be the peacemakers of God. As we are in mission to reconcile people to God then those who will oppose our mission of peacemaking, then they will be dealt with by God Almighty.

So as peacemakers we need to combat sin, protect ourselves, pronounce God's judgment on those who do evil, and we need to refrain from doing evil or hurt and harm those who do evil, but keep them to receive the judgment of God on His perfect time.

"5 Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar!" (Psalm 120:5 KJV) About David, we never heard that he lived neither in Mesech nor in Kedar, but the kind of people who were his enemies, Saul and his army, were nuisance and evil, mischievous and dangerous as the people of Mesech and Kedar.

David was forced to live at a distance from the ordinances of God because of the persecution of Saul. While he was in banishment, he looked upon himself as a stranger, and never at home when he was far from God's altars; and he cries out, ***"Woe is me"***, because he could not get home to God's resting-place and God's altar, but he was kept at a distance. Note, A good man cannot think himself at home while he is banished from God's church. It is a great grief to all that love God to be without the means of grace and of communion with God and to be in His church: when they are under a force of that kind they cannot but cry out, as David here, "Woe is me!"

David was forced to live among wicked people, who were, upon many accounts, troublesome to him. He was forced to live away from the ordinances of God. When we are facing such kind of people in our lives who will continually hurt us and ignite us and injure us, and when we want to reply to them, interact to their threats, react to protect ourselves we might be crossing certain limits, have some evil thoughts in response, having some anger, or unforgiveness, or have some ill feeling and grudges in our hearts toward them, then we may even because of such interaction from our side, be moving away from God as we are engaged to deal with our enemies, and we may join David in what he said, "Woe to me!" Because we are no more peacemakers but we are fighting back-makers, revenge-makers and that is where we might fail to do what the Word of God says, to be a peacemakers.

"6 My soul hath long dwelt with him that hateth peace." (Psalm 120:6 KJV) If we keep ministering to people who love sin and hate to repent we will be enticed by them and they will pull us from our missions from being peacemakers and that what had happened to David that even at the end we can noticed that David joined the Palestines to fight the army of Israel under Saul leadership.

But the Lord is faithful, He stopped David and did not allow him to go beyond the limit. In the same way the Lord is faithful; He will intervene in our lives and will not allow us to go beyond the limit and lose the title to be the peacemakers, therefore, we need to be aware and repent.

Quoting the story of David, is not an excuse for us to justify our failure to obey God being failure to be a peacemakers, but to persevere in forgiveness, in humility, in turning back from our own wicked ways and an opportunity to examine ourselves and correct ourselves and go back to the standards of God's Word to be the peacemakers of God.

Lot in Sodom was tormented with what the wicked people of Sodom were doing and practicing, ***"8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds);" (2 Peter 2:8 KJV)***; to dwell long time with such people is grievous indeed, for they are thorns, vexing, and scratching, and tearing, and they will show the old enmity that is in the seed of the serpent against the seed of the woman. Such kind of people we need to be aware of how to minister to them. We need to know our limits and if we see ourselves tempted to do evil, we need to move away from evil first and if we are really cannot avoid, we need to move away from them to keep ourselves as peacemakers.

We need to be cultivating the fruit of the Holy Spirit; love, peace, joy, patience, perseverance, long suffering, gentleness, faith, faithfulness, humility and kindness so we will be guarded against all the work of the flesh that we might be not aware of.

Those that David dwelt with were not only hated him, but hated peace, and proclaimed war with it. Perhaps Saul's court was the Mesech and Kedar in which David dwelt, and Saul was the man that hated peace, whom David tried but could not; the more service he did to him the more exasperated he was against him. See here, the character of a very good man in David, who could truly say, though he was a man of war, I am for peace; ***"7 I am for peace: but when I speak, they are for war." (Psalm 120:7 KJV)*** No wonder that the Lord Jesus would allow us to be with such kind of people and we are forced to be in relationship with them in order that He will build in us the character of peacemaker and will change our attitude into His likeness.

Let us declare it and not to be afraid or shaken or be doubted, "I am for peace", and let us do all our assignments well, and know our limits and not to cross to the area of sin and wrong doing and do things evil as they are doing against us.

Jesus desire in us to live peaceably with all men and unpeaceably with none; let us pray for ourselves to love peace, pursue peace, to delight in peace, and to work hard for peace, but that will not guarantee peace if the people that we are reaching out are not willing for peace and are not willing to have peace according to the law of God.

Let us try this way of God. We might not have passed through that before, but let us walk in it from this day onward and let us reap its benefits.

Let make our motto, “I pray for peace and strive for peace, will do any thing, submit to any thing, depart with any thing, in reason, for peace. I am for peace, and have made it to appear that I am so.

The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable. The character of the worst of bad men in David’s enemies, are those who would pick quarrels with those that were most peaceably people. David said: **“But when I speak, they are for war”**, David spoke with all respect and kindness that he could be, proposed methods of accommodation, he spoke good reason, he spoke in love; but they hated peace and bent to mischief. Such were Christ’s enemies: for His love they were His adversaries, and for His good words, and good works, they stoned Him. That is the most difficult people that we are going to meet and minister who pick up for quarrels even for the good that we saying and doing for them. If we meet with such enemies, we must not think it strange, nor is to consider seeking peace in vain. Remember, be not overcome of evil, but, even when thus tried, still try to overcome evil with good.

B. A peaceable conservation: Is to preserve the peace not to be broken, and to recover it when it is broken; to respond to the proposals of peace by ourselves, and to be ready to make them to others. When there is distance among brethren and neighbours, it is our duty to do all we can to accommodate it, and to be repairers of the breaches.

To make peace, we may need to give, to forgive, to forget, to sacrifice, to bear, to persevere, to give another chance, and to be creative in peace, to be humble and willing to be humiliated, and to give in this way a chance in our relationship with others in order to bring peace, “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:1-3 KJV)

The making of peace is sometimes a thankless office, may be no one will thank us for, or it may cause us harm; yet it is a good office, and we must be going forward in it.

Some think that this is intended especially as a lesson for ministers, who should do all what they can to reconcile those who are at variance, and to promote Christian love among those under their charge. No, but this office should be for all because such persons are blessed; for they have the satisfaction of enjoying themselves, by keeping the peace, and of being truly serviceable to others, by organizing them to move to peace. They are working together with Christ, who came into the world to slay all enmities, and to proclaim peace on earth.

The peacemakers **they shall be called the children of God:** It will be an evidence to themselves that they are so; God will own them as such being His children, and herein they will resemble Him. He is the God of peace; the Son of God is the Prince of peace; the Spirit of adoption is a Spirit of peace.

Since God has declared Himself reconcilable to us all, he will not own those for his children who are cruel in their enmity to one another; for if the peacemakers are blessed, woe to the peace-breakers!

Now by this it appears, that Christ never intended to have his religion propagated by fire and sword, or punishing laws, or to acknowledge intolerance, or uncontrollable zeal, as the mark of his disciples. The children of this world love to fish in troubled waters, but the children of God are the peace-makers, and the quiet in the land.

My dear and beloved:

Peacemakers to deal first with sin whenever that is possible.

Peacemakers they have assignments that they need to fulfill to deal with sin in order to bring peace.

Peacemakers are hard working and are diligently struggling in order to bring peace.

Peacemakers start their journey with evangelism reaching out the sinners and teaching them God’s Word.

The peacemakers are happy and filled with joy as they move forward to bring sinners to God.

Peacemakers have pure heart, pure conscience, void of offences, and don’t have malice or evil doing toward God or men.

Peacemakers protect themselves whenever there are offenses against them and avoid creating conflict whenever that is feasible.

Peacemakers have a strong and hearty affection to peace.

Peacemakers cry to God when they are in distress and when they are attacked. God will deliver them from the lying lips and from deceitful tongues.

Peacemakers when they are faced with evil kind of people, liars, stories cookers and slanderers, they warn them about the coming judgment of God if they will not repent.

As peacemakers when we work for peace we need to tell to those people who are harming us the truth, that they may get persuaded with the truth that we are telling to them of what will happen to them if they will not give up their sins and their wrongdoings against us.

As peacemakers we need to combat sin, protect ourselves, pronounce God’s judgment on those who do evil, and we need to refrain from doing evil or hurt and harm those who do evil against us, but keep them to receive the judgment of God on His perfect time.

As peacemakers when we are facing such kind of people in our lives who will continually hurt us and ignite us and injure us, and when we want to reply to them, interact to their threats, react to protect ourselves we might be crossing certain limits, have some evil

thoughts in response, having some anger, or unforgiveness, or have some ill feeling and grudges in our hearts toward them, then we may even because of such interaction from our side, be moving away from God as we are engaged to deal with our enemies, and we may join David in what he said, “Woe to me!” because we are no more peacemakers but we are fighting back-makers, revenge-makers and that is where we might fail to do what the Word of God says, to be a peacemakers. Therefore, be awake, repent of all such and come back to God.

As peacemakers, we need to have faith that the Lord is faithful; He will intervene in our lives and will not allow us to go beyond the limit and lose the title to be the peacemakers.

As peacemakers quoting the story of David, is not an excuse for us to justify our failure to obey God being failure to be a peacemakers, but to persevere in forgiveness, in humility, in turning back from our own wicked ways and an opportunity to examine ourselves and correct ourselves and go back to the standards of God’s Word to be the peace makers of God.

As peacemakers we need to be aware of how to minister to them. We need to know our limits and if we see ourselves tempted to do evil, we need to move away from evil, and if we are really cannot avoid, we need to move away from them to keep ourselves being peacemakers.

As peacemakers we need to be cultivating the fruit of the Holy Spirit; love, peace, joy, patience, perseverance, long suffering, gentleness, faith, faithfulness humility and kindness so we will be guarded against all the work of the flesh that we might be not aware of.

As peacemakers, no wonder that the Lord Jesus would allow us to be with such kind of hard people and we are forced to be in relationship with them in order that He will build in us the character of peacemaker and will change our attitude into His likeness.

Let us declare it and not to be afraid or shaken or be doubted, “I am for peace”, and let us do all our assignments well, and know our limits and not to cross to the area of sin and wrong doing and do things evil as they are doing against us.

As peacemakers, let us pray for ourselves to love peace, pursue peace, to delight in peace, and to work hard for peace, but that will not guarantee peace if the people that we are reaching out are not willing for peace and are not willing to have peace according to the law of God.

As peacemakers, let us try this way of God. We might not passed through that before, but let us walk in it from this day onward and let us reap its benefits.

As peacemakers, let make our motto, “I pray for peace and strive for peace, will do any thing, submit to any thing, depart with any thing, in reason, for peace. I am for peace, and have made it to appear that I am so”.

As peacemakers, if we meet with such enemies, who pick up for quarrels even for the good that we are saying and doing for them, we must not think it strange, nor is to

consider seeking peace in vain. Remember, be not overcome of evil, but, even when thus tried, still try to overcome evil with good.

As peacemakers, to make peace, we may need to give, to forgive, to forget, to sacrifice, to bear, to persevere, to give another chance, and to be creative in peace, to be humble and willing to be humiliated, and to give this way a chance in our relationship with others in order to bring peace.

As peacemakers when there is distance among brethren and neighbours, it is our duty to do all we can to accommodate it, and to be repairers of the breaches.

As peacemakers, the making of peace is sometimes a thankless office, may be no one will thank us for it, or it may cause us harm; yet it is a good office, and we must be going forward in it.

As peacemakers we need to understand that the responsibility of peacemaking is not only on ministers, who should do all what they can to reconcile those who are at variance, and to promote Christian love among those under their charge. No, but this office should be for all because such persons are blessed; for they have the satisfaction of enjoying themselves, by keeping the peace, and of being truly serviceable to others, by organizing them to move to peace. They are working together with Christ, who came into the world to slay all enmities, and to proclaim peace on earth.

Since God has declared Himself reconcilable to us all, He will not own those for His children who are cruel in their enmity to one another; for if the peacemakers are blessed, woe to the peace-breakers.

My prayer:

Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that open my mind clearly and made me understand your will and the way to live my life for you and to serve you.

Let us confess to God our sins and wrongdoings. Let us ask God forgiveness and mercy for our sins that we commit against Him and against other people and against the church and the ministries of God. Lord forgive me the following sins _____. Ask God forgiveness for your pride, arrogance, fighting, making troubles, unforgiveness, quarrels, etc.

Lord I commit myself to abide with this word of yours that I receive in the message to be a real peacemakers and to be a child of yours in doing your will and living a life in promoting peace as we studied in this message. Lord I commit myself to evangelize, to deal with sin, and to declare to sinners and evil doers the judgment of God on their lives. Lord I commit myself to forgive those who hurt me and not to revenge or retaliate and do the same evil they are doing to me. Lord give me more love, self-control, peace and joy to continue to be in line with your Word and your will, for I am for peace Lord. Lord protects me and hide me from the lying lips and deceitful tongues.

Lord, I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who had humbled themselves before you to live as peacemakers and to apply the principles that we learn from your Word in this message Lord protect them, and provide for them all their needs. Lord comfort them and assure them that you are with them and leading them in their lives. Lord give them joy, happiness and peace. Lord visit them and reveal yourself more to them. Lord fills them once again with the Holy Spirit and makes their lives' testimony attractive to others so that people will believe in you and start to follow you and live according to your Word and your righteousness. Lord use them to be peacemakers, to evangelize and to make new disciples of yours and to bring peace and build up your church, the body of Christ.

Lord, I pray for us as a church to help us, protect us, and provide for us to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord add to us more of the fruit of the Holy Spirit to be ready to suffer for you and in doing your will. Lord fills us once again with the Holy Spirit and enables us to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the Word of God. Lord, we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus' name, Amen.

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