

Empire Church of the Brethren

Sunday Service Sermons

19 July 2026

The Great Promise of Peace

Text: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee." *Isa. 26: 3* Full Text: *Isa 26:1-4*.

How is your peace today?

I believe that peace is a gift of God to the righteous.

How do we become righteous?

By losing ourselves in Christ.

The more Jesus we put on the less of ourselves gets in our way.

Do those words ring true for you?

I hope so.

It is my job to bring those words to life for you.

To put them in your heart to the point that you are operating out of them.

Jesus came to give life to the hopeless.

Hope is life.

Without hope there is no life.

The term "peace" is found 400 times in the Bible.

It is said that The Bible is God's testament of peace.

Do you want peace?

Make God your all in all.

Become 100% sold out to God and you will have peace.

Peace comes when we know that we are accomplishing God's will for our life.

When we know that we are in the center of God's plan for us.

When we are fulfilling the contract we agreed too before coming to this life.

What is the peace of God?

How about peace with God?

Or peace from God?

God The Father is the God of peace who will sanctify the believer.

God the Son is the Prince of Peace, on whose shoulders the spiritual government will rest.

God the Holy Spirit produces the fruit of peace in the life of the believer.

The Bible assures us that when our ways please the Lord, God makes our enemies to be at peace with us.

At the birth of Jesus, angels praised God saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Other verses of Scripture about peace include *Matthew 5:9*, *Romans 12:18*, *1 Timothy 2:2*, and *James 3:17*.

But *Isaiah 26:3* just might be the favorite verse about peace.

From it we can draw inspiration and strength.

The protection of this peace.

Notice the word "keep".

The idea behind this word is a sentinel standing watch or keeping guard.

A passage from the New Testament that expresses the same meaning is *Philippians 4:6-7*.

Paul was assured that God's peace would keep (or stand watch) over his readers' hearts and minds.

How can we be assured of this for ourselves?

Proven by God's performance.

God reminded Moses and the people of Israel by his faithfulness in protecting them.

Joshua had a monument erected that would serve as a memorial to remind the people of God's faithfulness.

Samuel set up stone between Mizepheh and Shen and called it "Ebenezer" to remind the people that they were where they were because of God's faithfulness.

God's past performance of faithfulness is proof that he will keep his promise of peace.

Maintained by God's power.

In describing the government that the Prince of Peace would establish, the Lord declared, "The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

God's power will bring about this peace, and his power will maintain this peace.

Supervised by God's presence.

In *Isaiah 41:10* God encouraged Isaiah, "Fear not; for I am with you: be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you; yes, I will help you; yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of my righteousness."

God will not forsake his own.

He has promised to be our constant companion throughout life.

The description of this peace.

The word "perfect" is not in the original text.

The noun "peace" is repeated to denote emphasis and means undisturbed, perfect peace.

God's peace is unique in three ways.

It surpasses human understanding.

God's peace is indescribable.

It is totally foreign to human experience and reason.

Jesus himself said that the peace he would give would be unlike anything the world could offer.

It surpasses human capability.

Three times in *Ephesians 2:11-22* the apostle Paul writes of Christ that "he is our peace"; he is "making peace"; and he "preached peace".

No man can remove the enmity between himself and God.

It is a miracle of grace through Christ.

It surpasses human expectations.

` In writing to the Christians at Ephesus, Paul told them of his prayer request.

It was his desire that they might come to a better understanding of God's revelation.

The richness of God's peace is over whelming.

The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ involves more than anyone can imagine; it will never disappoint our most grandiose hope.

The conditions for this peace.

Although the peace that God offers the believer is a free gift, certain conditions must be met.

A mind "stayed" on God.

The word for "stayed" means "to learn, rest upon, support."

Therefore, the mind that is at peace is the mind that is supported by the Lord.

We must discipline our minds to dwell on the Lord.

A heart that "trusts" in God.

"Trust in the Lord for ever" for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

We must place our confidence in God.

No calamity adversity, persecution, poverty, or trial of any kind should prevent us from trusting him.

Hezekiah was a man of faith whose example of trusting encourages us to do the same.

And who can forget the inspiring faith of Job who declared, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him".

We all know and trust in the passage in Proverbs which states: "Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all of your ways acknowledge him, and he shall make your paths straight."

Notice that *Isaiah 26:3* begins *with* God (Thou) and ends with God (Thee) and the trusting soul is in between.

Perfect peace is to get between these two words, "Thou" and "thee", and to stay there.

Let us recall the poignant words from Frances Havergal's hymn:

Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace. Over all victorious in its bright increase; Perfect, yet it floweth fuller every day; Perfect, yet it growth deeper all the way, Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest; Finding, as he promised, perfect peace and rest".

God is peace and he shares his peace with His people.