The Missing Peace

Darcy Siggelkow

Question: What is your favourite memory of the Sears Wishbook catalogue, if you remember what that is?

PEACE is what Christmas is all about!

Question: If "peace" isn't a word that comes to mind about life these days, what words would describe it for you?

Read Luke 2:14; Isaiah 9:6–7

Followers of Jesus live "between the times" of Christ's coming: 'the last days'

Questions: What has been your understanding; what have you heard as an explanation for "the last days"?

Read Matthew 24:36

We don't have to wait for Jesus to come again to experience his peace.

Read Isaiah 26:1–4

Question: How much would you pay on eBay for "perfect peace"?

The Hebrew word for "peace" is "Shalom":

Shalom is the peace that comes from experiencing wholeness. It's peace with God, people, and circumstances.

Experiencing God's peace doesn't mean that everything in your life is going to be perfect.

Read John 16:33 and Isaiah 26:1-4 again

God's peace is not dependent on our thoughts.

Our <u>experience</u> of God's peace depends on our thoughts.

Read Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:9

Question: From these verses, what do you need to do to experience salvation?

Read Philippians 4:6–9

Questions: What does it look like for these items to become a "thought filter" for your thinking? What is one step you can take to move towards implementing this "mental detector"?

Peace isn't found in the absence of problems, it's found in the presence of Jesus.

Craig Groeschel

