



Peace on Earth

Luke 2:1-14

Luke 2:14

**“Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace among men
with whom He is pleased.”**

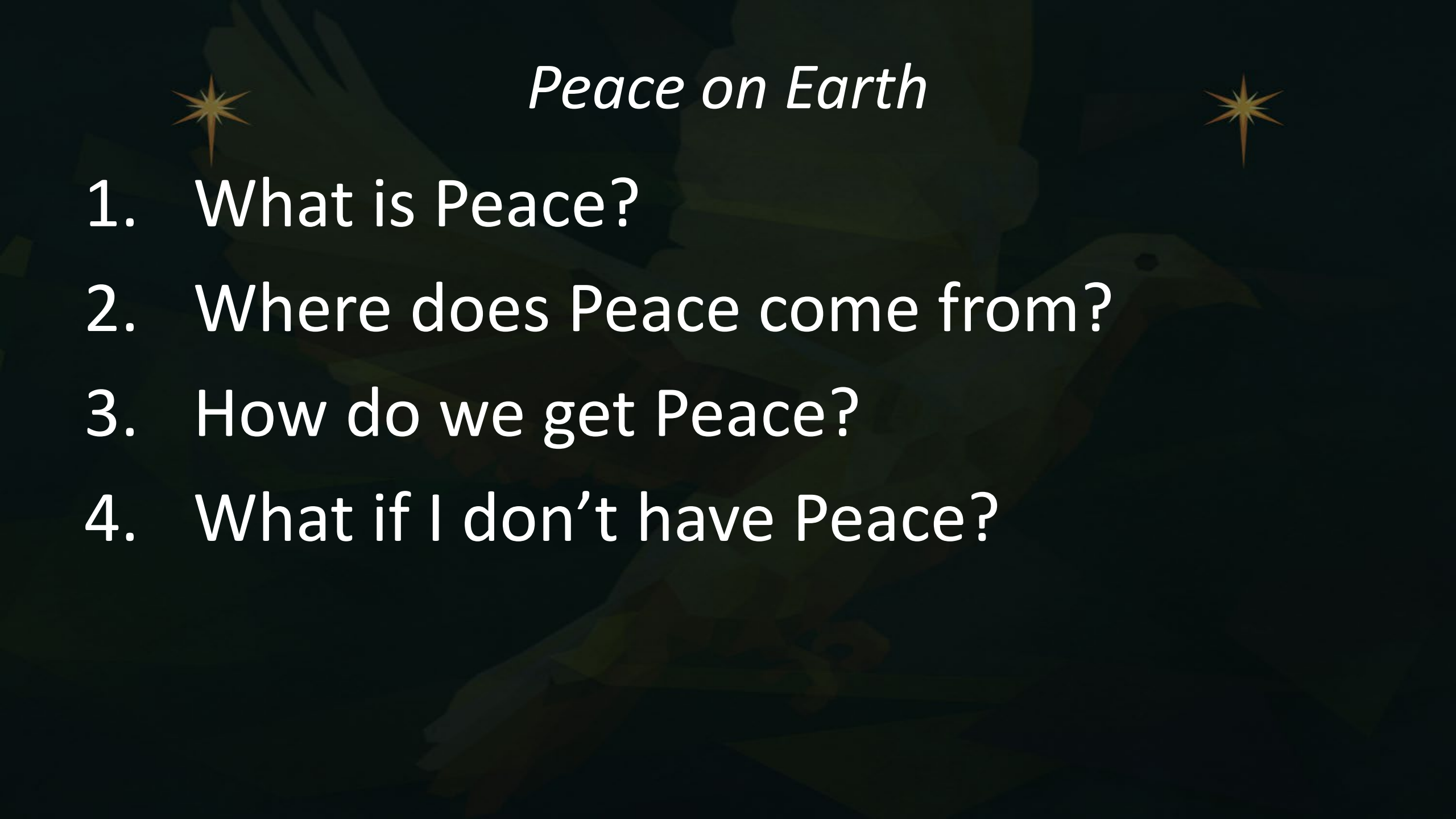
Luke 2:14

- “Glory to God in the highest”
 - The main point of all creation! (Ps. 19:1-6; Rom. 1:18-23; 1 Cor. 10:31; Rev. 14:6-7)
 - In the highest* = in heaven (cf. Deut. 10:14; Luke 19:38)

Luke 2:14

- “And on earth, peace...”

What on earth
is *peace*?



Peace on Earth

1. What is Peace?
2. Where does Peace come from?
3. How do we get Peace?
4. What if I don't have Peace?

What is *Peace*?

- OT: *shalom* – *wholeness, completeness, fulfillment, harmony, perfection*



Health, relationships,
covenants, vows,
business agreements,
prosperity, safety

Where does Peace come from?

- From God

- Numb. 6:22-27

- “Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!”
(2 Thess. 3:16)

✦ Where does Peace come from? ✦

- Because of sin, men do not have peace
 - “There is no peace for the wicked,” says the Lord. (Isa. 48:22)
 - No peace with God or other men (see Isa. 59:1-8)

How do we get Peace?

- With God: through Christ
 - “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom. 5:1)
 - Once helpless enemies now reconciled to God (6-10)

How do we get Peace?

- With God: through Christ
 - *Prince of Peace* (Isa. 9:6)
 - “This One will be our peace.” (Mic. 5:5)
 - “For He Himself is our peace” (Eph. 2:14)
 - The Father “made peace through the blood of His [Jesus’] cross” (Col. 1:20)

How do we get Peace?

- With others

– *Peace among men with whom He is pleased* (Luke 2:14)

- *In Other Words*: Those who are pleasing to God will have peace
- *Please = favor* (see Ps. 5:11-12)

How do we get Peace?

- With whom is God pleased?
 - “The perverse in heart are an abomination to the Lord, but the blameless in their walk are His **delight**.” (Prov. 16:7)
 - “**God is opposed to the proud**, but gives grace to the humble” (1 Pet. 5:5b)

How do we get Peace?

• Rom. 2:5-10

- Stubbornness
- Unrepentant heart
- Selfishly ambitious
- Obey unrighteousness

Which results in:

- Wrath, indignation, tribulation, distress

- Seek glory, honor, immortality
- Persevere in good works
- Obey the truth

Which results in:

- Eternal life, glory, honor, peace

How do we get Peace?

- “Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, But humility goes before honor.” (Prov. 18:12; cf. 15:33)
- “The reward of humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, honor and life.” (Prov. 22:4)

How do we get Peace?

- “Seek the Lord, All you humble of the earth who have carried out His ordinances; Seek righteousness, seek humility. Perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the Lord’s anger.” (Zeph. 2:3)

How do we get Peace?

- With others: through *righteousness/truth*
 - “Doing what is right”
 - *Living according to God’s design*
 - Follow Jesus’ example (1 Cor. 11:1; **Phil. 4:9**; cf. 1 Pet. 2:19-25)

How do we get Peace?

- With others: through *righteousness/truth*
 - “Doing what is right”
 - *Living according to God’s design*
 - “...you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God...” (1 Thess. 4:1-12)

How do we get Peace?

- With others: through *righteousness/truth*
 - “Doing what is right”
 - *Living according to God’s design*
 - Expressed in *Godly Wisdom* (Prov. 3:1-2, 13-26; cf. 8:1-36; James 3:17)
 - “all her paths are peace” (Prov. 3:17)

How do we get Peace?

- With others: through *righteousness/truth*
 - “Doing what is right”
 - *Living according to God’s design*
 - “Those who love Your law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.” (Ps. 119:165)

How do we get Peace?

- With others: through *righteousness/truth*
 - “And the work [or *fruit*] of righteousness will be peace” (Isa. 32:17)
 - “for the kingdom of God is ... righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit” (Rom. 14:17)

How do we get Peace?

- How do you want others to treat you?

Patient, kind, not jealous, no bragging, not arrogant, acts becomingly, does not seek its own, not provoked, keeps no record of wrongs, ...

“treat others the same way you want them to treat you”

How do we get Peace?

Love:

Patient, kind, not jealous, no bragging, not arrogant, acts becomingly, does not seek its own, not provoked, keeps no record of wrongs, ...



Peace



How do we get Peace?

- “When a man’s ways are pleasing to the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.” (Prov. 16:7)

✦ “What if I don’t have Peace?” ✦

- Are you right with God?

- *Do you understand and believe what Jesus did on your behalf?*

- *Have you humbled yourself and asked God for forgiveness?*

✦ “What if I don’t have Peace?” ✦

- Are you living according to God’s design?
 - *Humbly, In all areas of life?*
 - “Peace will come to the earth when men are like Him [Jesus]. That is the way of peace, and there is no other way.”
- G. Campbell Morgan

✦ “What if I don’t have Peace?” ✦

- Are you *trusting* or are you *fretting*?
 - “The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, because he trusts in You.”
(Isa. 26:3)
 - *You cannot worry and be at peace at the same time*

Peace

- Because of Jesus' life, death, & resurrection, we can have peace with God (Rom. 5:1)
- Because of Jesus' life, death, & resurrection, we can have peace with others, but we must pursue it (1 Pet. 3:8-12)