

Study Guide
Psalm 4
Advent | Peace

Shalom, is the Hebrew word for peace. It's a statement of completeness even within the complexities of life. It can mean that damaged property has been repaid, or that hurt relationships have been restored, or even rival forces stop fighting, but start working together.

But still, in the human journey there is an awareness that peace is not something we can find out in the world. It's too complex; it's too volatile.

1. Biblical peace is found in the Person of Christ.

Eph. 2:14 says, "For He Himself is our peace..."

Jesus is the one who makes my life complete within the brokenness and complexities of life.

What does that look like? Can you give an example of this in your own life?

2. Read Psalm 4. The probable context is David having to flee for His life as his son, Absalom, attempts to overthrow his government. What must that have been like for David to have his entire life upended?

3. According to v. 1-2, unanswered prayer and untrustworthy people are two things that can rob our peace. Tell of a time when you felt that God was not answering your prayers or when you felt on trial and "shamed" by people around you. What was that like for you?

4. According to v. 3-7, there are things that David is able to do to restore inner peace.

How do each of these phrases help you and I to realize "shalom" / completeness in your life?

- a. Oneness (v 3)
- b. Meditation (v 4)
- c. Trust (v 5)
- d. Presence (v 6-7)

5. Verse 8 concludes with restful sleep. It is God alone who "makes [us] dwell in safety."

What can you do this week that will help you shed some of your anxiety?

Message Slides

Advent Peace

Shalom- to make complete or restore.

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Isaiah 9:6- "...and His name shall be called wonderful...Prince of [Shalom]!"

John 14:27 "My [Shalom] I give to you."

Rom. 5:8- "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have [Shalom] with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Eph. 2:14- "For He Himself is our [Shalom], who has made us both one..."

Psalm 4- David in Distress

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2 Samuel 15-18 Absalom "stole their hearts"

I. Peace Killers

A. Unanswered prayer (v.1)

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

I. Peace Killers

B. Untrustworthy people (v.2)

2O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah*

II. Peace Builders

A. Oneness (v.3)

3But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

II. Peace Builders

B. Meditation (v.4)

4Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*

II. Peace Builders

C. Trust (v.5)

5Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

II. Peace Builders

D. Presence (v.6-7)

6There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!"

7You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

III. At Peace (v.8)

8In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Story of Peace

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Angel (Luke 1:30-31)

“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus.”