

MATTHEW 5:9 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS - [\(SERMON MP3\)](#)

Review and respond to the following main points from (Matthew 5:9). What do you need to know, believe, or do after hearing Christ's words? What changed as a result of your encounter with the Scriptures?

- *A peacemaker is not a socio-political pacifist, nor is he an appeaser who avoids conflict. Instead, he is one who actively pursues peace with a commitment to honesty and a willingness to risk pain.*
- *A peacemaker demonstrates the character of the Kingdom and can be identified as a "son of God."*
- *If you want to be a peacemaker, you must have peace with God and peace within. Only then can you have peace with others.*

In order to have peace we require a mediator — a person or persons who can represent both sides in the dispute and help effect reconciliation. For human beings at enmity with a holy God, who is that mediator _____? Look up (1Tim. 2:5-6) to help you answer this question.

- *What is it about his person, life, and nature that make him the perfect mediator and peacemaker? What verses support your answer?*
- *What are some of the qualities that should characterize us in our endeavors to make peace? How does (Gal. 6:1-2) help us? What other passages inform your answer?*

Is it your fault when you take a stand for what's right and it causes division? If you have alienated someone and brought down their anger upon your head because you have done or said what is right, have you ceased to be a peacemaker?

- *How does (Rom. 12:18) offer some insight? Should we equate peacemaking with peace-achieving YES | NO? Explain your answer.*
- *Jeremiah was a true peacemaker yet he was always in the midst of conflict. The religious leaders of his day foolishly talked of peace but refused to repent of the sin that inhibited its realization.*
- *According to (Jeremiah 8:11-12) what did the false prophets proclaim _____? What do you think it means, "they healed the wound of my people lightly?" Take a look at (Ezekiel 13:10-15) for another parallel analogy.*
- *If we are going to be peacemakers we must be like Jeremiah who held out the standard of God's righteousness even though he personally suffered from the conflict that ensued. Do you struggle doing God's will and proclaiming His standard sometimes YES | NO. Have you struggled with this in the outworking of what it means to be a peacemaker?*

A peacemaker strives primarily to bring men and women into reconciliation with God and secondarily into reconciliation with one another. Read (2Cor. 5:14-21) and jot down 3 significant thoughts or reflections from that passage about peacemaking. How does (Isaiah 52:7) fit into your thoughts on the link between peacemaking and sharing the Gospel?

How does the theme of peace and peacemaking fit into the Christmas season? Who proclaimed it? Who prophesied it? Who mediated it? Who received it? Jot down some thoughts and supporting scripture passages to share with your study group.

