

A SHOWER OF PEACE: A Scripture Reading
(For 3 readers. Include the references.)

1 – Psalm 29: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever. The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.

2 – Psalm 119: Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.

3 – Isaiah 9: To us a child is born, to us a son is given, and he will be called Prince of Peace.

1 – Isaiah 26: You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2 – Isaiah 32: The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.

3 – Luke 2: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

1 – John 14: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

2 – Acts 10: You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

3 – Romans 1: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 – Romans 5: Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

2 – Romans 8: The mind controlled by the sinful nature is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.

3 – 2 Corinthians 13: Be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

1 – Philippians 4: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2 – Philippians 4: Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

3 – Colossians 3: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

1 – Hebrews 12: No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

2 – James 3: Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

3 – Matthew 5: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

1 – Numbers 6: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

1, 2 & 3 – The Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace.

Just as showers of rain are given to nourish life and encourage growth, so this shower of peace is meant to develop peace within us. Calm, peaceful people are a blessing to those around them. First of all, we must be at peace with God. 2 Peter 3:14 says, “So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to [Christ’s coming], make every effort to be found spotless, blameless, and at peace with God.”

Next, we need to be at peace with others. Romans 12:18 says, “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everybody.” That sounds like a good New Year’s resolution, doesn’t it? Perhaps not everyone in your life will accept your offer of peace, but at least you will have tried, and that’s what the Scriptures ask us to do.

Finally, we need to be at peace with our circumstances. Contentment certainly leads to peace. Paul says in Philippians 4: “I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.” Doesn’t that sound peaceful? It also sounds like another New Year’s resolution we could make! Paul went on to say he had learned the secret of being content in all situations. Instead of trying to discover Paul’s secret, let’s try to develop our own way of being at peace with our circumstances. With God, it’s possible!

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