



The Fruit of the Spirit #3 = PEACE

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Introduction: Paul boldly urges the churches of Galatia to walk by the Spirit. He warns them about the works of the flesh and then identifies the fruit of the Spirit. Let's consider some things about peace. . . .

Discussion:

I. Peace Can Be Lost

I Thessalonians 5:23-24 says, "Now may God himself, the God of peace, make you pure, belonging only to him. May your whole self—spirit, soul, and body—be kept safe and without fault when our Lord Jesus Christ comes. You can trust the One who calls you to do that for you."

- * Paul's Experience
- * Paul's Fears
- * Paul's Warning

II. Peace Must Be Pursued

II Timothy 2:22 says, "Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

- * Peace Takes Effort
- * Peace Is A Personal Choice
- * Peace Is A Fruit-Bearing Experience

III. Peace Must Be Initiated

Colossians 1:20 says, "And through Christ, God has brought all things back to himself again—things on earth and things in heaven. God made peace through the blood of Christ's death on the cross."

- * Reconcile With God
- * Reconcile With Others
- * Be A Minister of Reconciliation

IV. Peace Must Be Kept

Colossians 3:15 says, "Let the peace that Christ gives control your thinking, because you were all called together in one body to have peace. Always be thankful."

- * Peace Needs to Control Our Thoughts
- * Peace Needs to Control Our Actions
- * Peace Needs to Control Our Hearts

Conclusion: We need to re-evaluate what we are doing, why we are doing it, and how it is improving our life. Paul hopes that we will live in the Spirit and walk in the Spirit! It's time to bear fruit! Are you ready to obey God's will? Are you ready to find the peace that surpasses comprehension?

WORD OF THE DAY = "PEACE"