

Philippians 4:1-13. *There is power to thrive ev the Christ*. Since we are citizens actually elsewhere, and since the Lord Jesus the Christ is in control, and since death itself will transform us into the likeness of the Christ—therefore:

- ✓ Stand firm in the Lord.
- ✓ Euodia and Syntyche—agree with each other in the Lord. You have worked with me in the gospel cause, along with Clement and others who're destined for heaven.

Here's how to get along with each other:

1. Rejoice in the Lord always—rejoice in the Lord always. Rejoice!
2. Let your gentleness be evident, to all for the Lord God Himself is near.
3. Don't be anxious about anything, but use prayerful petition and thanksgiving present your requests to God.
4. With that, the peace of God Himself which goes beyond complete human comprehension will protect your *raison d'être*, will protect your minds in Christ Jesus.
5. Focus on that is excellent & praiseworthy—whatever is :
 - a) True
 - b) Noble
 - c) Right
 - d) Pure
 - e) Lovely
 - f) Admirable
6. Whatever you may have learned from me, or seen in me, put it into practice. The God of peace (εἰρήνης, “aye-ray-nayes,” 1515; reconciliation) will be with you.

MATTHEW 4:1-13

Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!
²I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to agree with each other in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you, loyal yokefellow, [or *loyal Syzygus*] help these women who have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.
⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!
⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.
⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹Whatever 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.
¹⁰I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. **¹³I can do everything through him who gives me strength.**

I love it that you have renewed your concern for me, but you have of course had no opportunity to show your concern. I'm not saying this because I'm in need, for I've learned to be content, regardless of circumstance. After all, I've known what it is to be poor, to have plenty, to be hungry, to be well fed, whether I've lived with plenty or with not enough. How have I know this? **Because I can do anything and everything with the strength of Him who gives me this contentment, regardless of situation.**

- Q When are there no disagreements within the church as we seek to fulfill our mission?
- Q How does (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) aid in reconciling disagreements among believers?
- Q What kind of peace do you suppose Paul is asking the church at Philippi to seek?
- Q Of what peace does the gospel consist? Can you make a case for all four?
- Q What circumstances have you failed to seek out His strength? What factors caused you not to seek His strength?
- Q In what circumstances have you had the most trouble relying upon He who strengthens you?

There are four kinds of “peace” spoken of in Scripture. Let us consider each before claiming we truly understand “peace.” Using four different language terms to delineate each of the four, we see:

- A. *pax*—the Latin word designating the absence of conflict. Peace is making sure the two parties do not war against each other as in “do war no more.”
- B. εἰρηνην (ayeray’nayn)—the Greek word for equilibrium; i.e., putting things back the way they were. Peace is reconciling two parties to a previous state of balance and harmony, as in “now you give your brother back his toy.”
- C. *islam*—the Arabic word for peace through submission. Peace is ensuring that all submit to the sovereign authority, as in “... a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron scepter...”
- D. *shalom*—the Hebrew word designating a sense of holistic well-being. Peace is having everything together in its right place as in “God is in His heaven and all is right with the world.”



EXAMPLES OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEACE IN SCRIPTURE —

“Shalom”

- ✓ [quoting the Lord God] “I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid. I will remove savage beasts from the land, and the sword will not pass through your country. —Leviticus 26:6
- ✓ [speaking to Isaiah] “The word of the LORD you have spoken is good,” Hezekiah replied. For he thought, “There will be peace and security in my lifetime.” —Isaiah 39:8

“Pax”

- ✓ [One of God’s rules for war.] If they refuse to make peace and they engage you in battle, lay siege to that city. —Deuteronomy 20:12

“Islam”

- ✓ At that time they struck down about ten thousand Moabites, all vigorous and strong; not a man escaped. That day Moab was made subject to Israel, and the land had peace for eighty years. —Judges 3:29-30
- ✓ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are

many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

—Revelation 19:11-16

“Ehraynay”

- ✓ Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the LORD, saying, 'The LORD is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever.'" Then David left, and Jonathan went back to the town. —1 Samuel 20:42
- ✓ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through Him [Christ] to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross. —Colossians 1:19-20