

April 15, 2024

When I was growing up, our family faithfully went to church every Sunday. But even though we did, I still did not know much about my heavenly Father—what He was like or what He wanted for my life. A friend once asked me if I believed in God. I answered yes, but in reality, I did not. How could I really believe in a God I knew nothing about? It was not until I was introduced to The Way International that I began to know God and see some of His wonderful qualities and characteristics. Two wonderful truths I learned about our heavenly Father are that He is the God of peace and that He is with us. The more we know about God as the God of peace and that He is with us, the greater we can trust in Him.

As we go to God's Word, we will see what God, Who is with us, will do for us as the God of peace.

There are just five verses in the Bible that specifically state that God is the "God of peace." These verses are listed below to show this aspect of the true nature of our heavenly Father.

Romans 15:33: Now **the God of peace** be with you all. Amen.

Right now, at this exact moment and every moment, the God of peace *is with us*. "Amen" means "so be it." This is an ever-present truth about our God—that now, at this moment, the God of peace is with us.

Philippians 4:9: Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and **the God of peace** shall be with you. The God of peace shall be with you—how encouraging! The word "shall" makes this verse an absolute truth. The God of peace *shall* be with you. It is heartening to be aware of God's presence, that He is with you. The truth that the God of peace shall be with you is a truth that is unchanging and trustworthy. What a great, big, wonderful God we have!

Romans 16:20: And **the God of peace** shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

This verse shows our complete victory through Christ over Satan, the god of this world. In Ephesians, God has placed all principality and power (even the power of Satan) and might and dominion under the feet of Christ. Because we have Christ in us, all these things are under our feet. This verse will be completely fulfilled with the return of Christ. It is the God of peace Who brings us the final victory and the complete fulfillment of our peace.

I Thessalonians 5:23: And the very **God of peace** sanctify [set apart] you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto [at] the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I love the emphasis in this verse. It does not only say the "God of peace," but it says the "very" God of peace. It can only be the very God of peace Himself Who can and does set us apart completely and causes us to be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. That's something magnificent to anticipate.

Hebrews 13:20,21:

Now **the God of peace**, that brought again [or brought up] from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you

that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

"Make...perfect" in verse 21 means to perfectly equip, to prepare fully. Our God, Who is a God of peace and comfort, perfectly equips and fully prepares His children to every good work.

These are wonderful truths about our God, the God of peace. We have seen that the very God of peace Himself is with us right now. He has given us the victory, He has set us apart, and He fully prepares us to every good work. We are able to trust in God to a greater degree, because we know that He is the God of peace and He is with us.

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