

PEACE

Isaiah 9:6; 26:3

- His Name is Wonderful: this takes care of the **dullness** of life.

[We no longer have to settle for cheap substitutes of the world in order to have excitement and fulfillment.]

- His Name is Counselor: this takes care of the **decisions** of life.

[We no longer have to be baffled about the decisions of life as we base them upon God's Word]

[Wise man: knows God and does the things of God]

[Fool: does not know God and does not do the things of God]

[Scoffer: doesn't know God and makes fun of those who do the things of God]

[God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and of a sound mind.]

- His Name is the Mighty God: this takes care of the **demands** of life.

[Life is demanding!]

[At times we feel like giving up, but thru Christ we rest on the Mighty God]

- His Name is the Everlasting Father: this takes care of the **dimensions** of life.

[We can become a part of the eternal plan of God.]

[A whole new dimension of living takes place when we rest in our Father's eternal hands.]

- His Name is Prince of Peace: this takes care of the **disturbances** of life.

Three experiences of peace for the believer:

1. Peace with God – a **spiritual** experience.
2. Peace of God – an **emotional** experience.
3. Peace on Earth – a **relational** experience.

Steps to inner peace:

1. **Relax.**

2. **Repent.**

- Ask God to forgive you.

3. **Restore.**

- Restoration is one of the central themes of the Bible.
- It is a primary responsibility for Christ followers.
- Ask God to help you forgive others.
- Your soul needs to be at peace with others. Getting your eyes on yourself, on others, or on circumstances take our eyes of Jesus and rob us of peace.

4. **Respect.**

- Accept who you are in Christ.
- Your self-esteem comes from Christ.

5. **Rescue.**

- The time that has been stolen from you.
- The opportunities to share Christ with others especially those who are perishing.
- Write an "I'm grateful" list.

6. **Renew.**

- Your focus. Back to the basics: Prayer, small group for accountability, service to the Lord.
- Clear the clutter out of your life.
- Consecrate yourself to the Lord.
- Consecrate your family to the Lord.