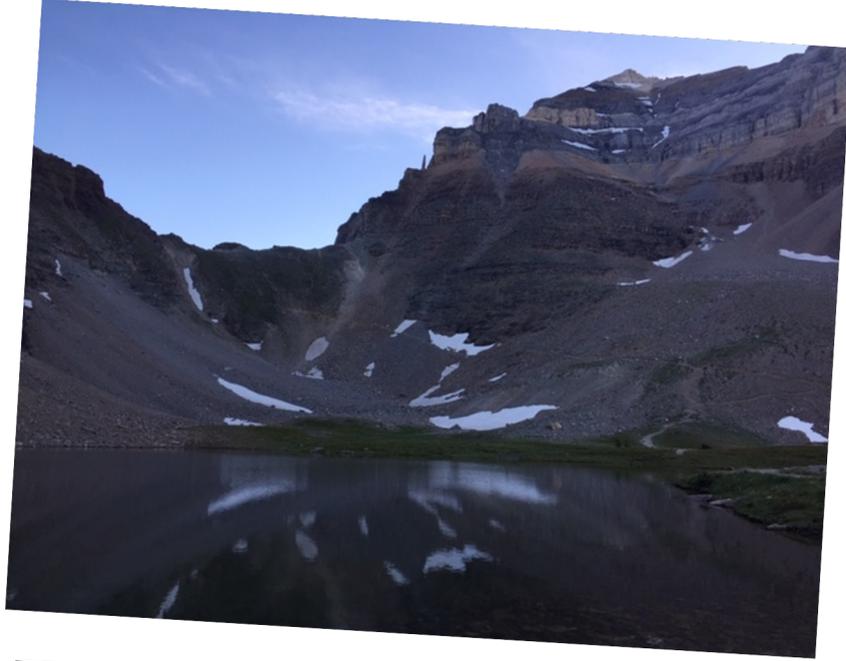


Looking for Peace in a Troubled World

December 4, 2022



Peace, bro!



Mt. Temple at dawn



**Peaceful
sleep after a long day
at the office.**

Luke 2:8-20 NIV

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth **peace** to those on whom his favor rests.”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see

this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the

shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

1) Peace With God: Rom 5:1-2, 8 (NIV):

“Therefore, 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. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.”

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

2) Peace With Self:

- **John 14:27** “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.” (context of JC speaking to his disciples about the HS coming)

- Prov 12:25: “Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.”

3) Peace With Others:

- Col 3:15 - “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”

Application:

- Peace isn't found in the absence of trouble, but in the presence of God
- What is 1 step I will take this week to grow in relational peace with:
 - God:
 - Myself:
 - Others: