

Sunday, January 10, 2021
Pastor Jake Magee
The Journey | Peaceful When Peaceless
Luke 12:49-53



Message Notes:

"I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." - Luke 12:49-53

Peace or no Peace?

How can we be Peaceful & Peaceless?

- **Consider what God will do with a *Peaceless FUTURE***

"I came to cast fire on the earth and would that it were already kindled! – Vs. 41

"For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be." - Matthew 24:21

- **See what God did with a *Peaceless PAST***

"I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!" – Vs.42

- **Behold what God is doing in your *Peaceless PRESENT***

"Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." – Vs. 43

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

Pastor Jake Magee

The Journey | Peaceful When Peaceless

Luke 12:49-53



Getting Started (Read Luke 12:49-53)

One way to take Jesus' words here is that he came to expose and replace false peace in our lives. What are some examples in history when people mistakenly thought times were peaceful when they weren't? How about spiritual examples?

Digging Deeper

- 1) It looks like Jesus is correcting his disciples' expectations. He says, "Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth?" From our previous lessons, what kind of peace were they probably expecting soon? Why was it a false and flimsy peace?

- 2) On Sunday we talked about prosperity theology.
 - a) What is prosperity theology?

 - b) What do adherents mistakenly think Jesus came to earth to give?

- 3) In verse 49 Jesus says he "came to cast fire on the earth..."
 - a) Some think he is referring to final judgment, which begins with the greatest tribulation the world has seen and culminates in his coming and the greatest peace. What are some verses that describe God's judgment with the imagery of fire and subsequent peace?

 - b) The fire of judgment burns away the impurities of this world and refines what is good and lasting. What are some earthly examples of fire burning away and making something better? What are some things you think would burn away in our culture? What would last?

 - c) Discuss how the following principle helps us to find comfort when our peace is taken away: *the greater the tribulation, the greater the peace.*

- 4) In verse 50, Jesus talks about a baptism he must undergo. This refers to the cross.
 - a) How does the word "baptism" help to describe what happen to Jesus on the cross?

 - b) Jesus gave up his peace for us. Explain?

5) In verses 51-53 we are told that we can expect strife in this world. He gives an example of conflict in the home.

a) Reread the verses and share some examples of how this happens today?

b) Is there anything good God might be accomplishing when there is severe contention in a family over Jesus? What?

6) The example of how Jesus can take peace away from a family is likely one of many areas where he takes it. And with many of them, Jesus is removing a bad peace to give something better.

a) On Sunday it was said that God will sometimes take our peace away to draw attention to areas of sin and dysfunction that we would happily live with if everything remained peaceful in life. Elaborate on the point. Give some examples.

b) It was also said that God will sometimes take our peace to shatter the myth that we can have a good life without God is enough. Discuss this paraphrase of a statement made by C.S. Lewis:

“God is right when he thinks that our modest prosperity and the happiness of our children are not enough to make us blessed; that all this must fall from us in the end, and if we have not learned to know him, we will be wretched. And therefore he troubles us, warning us in advance of an insufficiency that one day we will have to discover. If our life and our families stand between us and the recognition of our deepest need, he will make that life less sweet to us.”

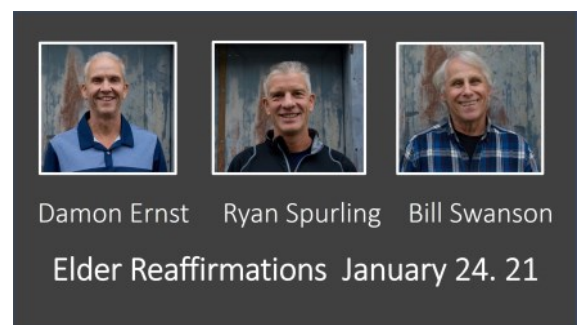
Making It Real

Spend some time praying about areas of strife in your life. Ask God for the conviction that he is working a greater peace in your life by the absence of it in that area. Reflect on how the great tribulation of Jesus' cross and final judgment give us two powerful precedents for how God works great peace through great tribulation.

FBC Family Business Meeting - Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021

We will be sending out a “Business Meeting” letter with Mail-In Ballots, to our Active Members this week. We ask that you prayerfully consider God’s leading in regards to reaffirming these Elders, who have recently shared their faith stories with us.

**Vote by Mail-In Ballots, or On-Line Ballots,
Tuesday, Jan. 19 through Sunday, Jan. 24.
www.sheltonfbc.org,**



Q: If you have questions, these Elders are available to speak with you after each service, today in the Commons Area, near the elevator. To share your questions with a pastor, please contact the office, (360) 426.8461.

