





By Elder  
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— Jesus Christ —  
**OUR PRINCE  
OF PEACE**

*Peace can come to all who earnestly  
seek the Prince of Peace.*

**F**ocusing on the Lord and everlasting life can help us through all the challenges of mortality. Imperfect people share planet earth with other imperfect people. Ours is a fallen world marred by excessive debt, wars, natural disasters, disease, and death.

Personal challenges come. Whatever may cause the worry, each of us yearns to find inner peace.

My message pertains to the only source of true and lasting peace, Jesus the Christ—our Prince of Peace.<sup>1</sup>

Jesus said, “Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”<sup>2</sup>

**He can bring peace to those whose lives have been ravaged by war.**

Families disrupted by military duty bear memories of war, which in my mind were embedded during the Korean War.

Wars of our present era are more sophisticated but are still as wrenching to families. Those who so suffer can turn to the Lord. His is the consoling message of peace on earth and good will among men.<sup>3</sup>

**Peace can come to those who are not feeling well.** Some bodies are wounded. Others ache spiritually because of missing loved ones or other emotional trauma. Brothers and sisters, peace can come to your soul as you build faith in the Prince of Peace.

“Have ye any that are sick among you? Bring them hither. Have ye any that are lame, or blind, or halt, or maimed, . . . or that are afflicted in any manner? Bring them hither and I will heal them.”<sup>4</sup>



“I see that your faith is sufficient that I should heal you.”<sup>5</sup>

**Peace can come to one who suffers in sorrow.** Whether sorrow stems from a mistake or a sin, all the Lord requires is real repentance. Scripture pleads with us to “flee [from] youthful lusts: . . . [and] call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”<sup>6</sup> Then His soothing “balm in Gilead” can heal even a sin-sick soul.<sup>7</sup>

Think of the change in John Newton, born in London in 1725. He repented from his sinful life as a slave trader to become an Anglican clergyman. With that mighty change of heart, John wrote words to the hymn “Amazing Grace.”

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.*<sup>8</sup>

“Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth.”<sup>9</sup>

**Peace can come to those whose labors are heavy:**

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

“For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”<sup>10</sup>

**Peace can come to those who mourn.** The Lord said,

“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.”<sup>11</sup> As we endure the passing of a loved one, we can be filled with the peace of the Lord through the whisperings of the Spirit.

“Those that die in me shall not taste of death, for it shall be sweet unto them.”<sup>12</sup>

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”<sup>13</sup>

“I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

“And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”<sup>14</sup>

**Peace can come to all who earnestly seek the Prince of**

**Peace.** His is the sweet and saving message our missionaries take throughout the world. They preach the gospel of Jesus Christ as restored by Him through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Missionaries teach these life-changing words of the Lord: “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”<sup>15</sup>

**Peace can come to all who choose to walk in the ways of the Master.** His invitation is expressed in three loving words: “Come, follow me.”<sup>16</sup>

We’ll sing all hail to the Prince of Peace,<sup>17</sup> for He will come again. Then “the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.”<sup>18</sup> As the millennial Messiah, He will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.<sup>19</sup>

As we follow Jesus Christ, He will lead us to live with Him and our Heavenly Father, with our families. Through our many challenges of mortality, if we remain faithful to covenants made, if we endure to the end, we will qualify for that greatest of all the gifts of God, eternal life.<sup>20</sup> In His holy presence, our families can be together forever.

God bless you, my dear brothers and sisters. May you and your loved ones enjoy forever all the blessings of our Lord—our Prince of Peace. **NE**

*From a 2013 Christmas Devotional address.*

#### NOTES

1. See Isaiah 9:6; 2 Nephi 19:6.
2. Matthew 19:14.
3. See Luke 2:14.
4. 3 Nephi 17:7.
5. 3 Nephi 17:8; see also Matthew 13:15; 3 Nephi 18:32; Doctrine and Covenants 112:13.
6. 2 Timothy 2:22; see also 3 Nephi 9:13.
7. See Jeremiah 8:22; see also “Did You Think to Pray?” *Hymns*, no. 140; “There Is a Balm in Gilead,” *Recreational Songs* (1949), 130.
8. “Amazing Grace,” *Olney Hymns* (1779), no. 41; see also John 9:25.
9. Luke 15:7; see also verse 10.
10. Matthew 11:28–30.
11. Matthew 5:4; see also 3 Nephi 12:4; Doctrine and Covenants 101:14.
12. Doctrine and Covenants 42:46.
13. John 14:27.
14. John 11:25–26.
15. John 14:15.
16. Luke 18:22.
17. See “We’ll Sing All Hail to Jesus’ Name,” *Hymns*, no. 182.
18. Isaiah 40:5.
19. See Revelation 19:16.
20. See Doctrine and Covenants 14:7.