

PURSUE PEACE, NOT COMPLACENCY

Our world is littered with selfishness and sin, with strife and division. Peace is rarely sustained for long among men because many are greedily vying for advantage over others. Yet, the majority deeply long for harmony and tranquility, for the absence of disturbances, quarrels and conflicts.

The commandment "*pursue peace with all men*" (Hebrews 12:14) is a noble calling, is an essential calling for all walking worthily of Christ. This pursuit for peace is impossible without being transformed unto the measure of the Lord Jesus - He who died on a cross to make reconciliation possible between God and sinners. The restoration of perfect fellowship with our Creator is in Christ Jesus, "*our peace*" who established peace "*in one body to God*" (Ephesians 2:14, 16).

Beneficiaries of God's peace are in turn accountable to Him to be His "*peacemakers*" (Matthew 5:9). Peace is not complacency, nor is it just an acceptance and contentment with a generation's status quo. Toleration of sin does not promote peace, but rather, spreads more disharmony and discord. Treating others in the manner we want to be treated (Luke 6:31) is Christ-like and thus sows peace. As well as overcoming evil "*with good*" (Romans 12:21). So does "*speaking the truth in love*" (Ephesians 4:15). "*If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.*" (Romans 12:18).