

SERMON NOTES
September 21, 2014
T. Don Guthrie, preaching

Peace in Our Time
Ephesians 2:11-15, 19-22

Peace talks – secular ideal

“Peace in Our Time” – irony, Neville Chamberlain, 1938

Fasces – symbol of Roman unity

Conflict is real. Conflict is spiritual.

James 4:1-2

¹What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? ²You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

- The possibility of peace

“make two into one new man” (v. 15)

1 Corinthians 3:1, 3

¹And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

³for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

- The reality of peace

Citizens of a city, sons (daughters) in a household, stones in temple
“fitted together” (v. 21)

- What shall we do?

Speak of the Spirit

Deny self

Ephesians 4:3 “being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

Surrender to Christ

Luke 2:14 – “Peace on earth.”

Ephesians 2:11-15, 19-22

¹¹Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision," which is performed in the flesh by human hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, ¹⁵by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace...

¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, ²¹in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.