

"THE GOD OF PEACE"**Introduction**

1. This is an inspired wish, or prayer
2. As such it must be fulfilled
3. It is a most full and comprehensive wish

1. A COMFORTING DESCRIPTION OF GOD

- 1) "The God of Peace":
 - (i) God is always at peace in himself: the Trinity
 - (ii) Heaven is a place of peace, love, harmony
 - (iii) God has no pleasure in man's death, etc.
APPLICATION: How much better would men be to know Him!
- 2) God, as the God of peace, is always working:
 - (i) when Satan sinned
 - (ii) when Adam sinned
 - (iii) the only thing God fights against is sin
 - (iv) that is because of what sin is (Explain)
- 3) There will be perfect peace at last.
APPLICATION: Let us love peace + brotherly love.

2. THE WONDERFULLY DEEP THINGS OF THE GOSPEL

- 1) To restore peace, God has done great wonders:
 - (i) appointed Christ to die: "set forth"
 - (ii) constituted Christ our great Shepherd
 - (iii) raised Christ from the dead
OBSERVE: These are deep things indeed:
 - (i) the power of hell defeated: Col. 2:14-15
 - (ii) sin atoned for: the resurrection proves it
 - (iii) assurance given to us by the resurrection

- 2) The everlasting Covenant:
 - (i) the Covenant of Works – no.
 - (ii) but of Grace – yes
- 3) "Blood of the Covenant":
 - (i) Covenants after the Fall, were sealed with blood:
e.g. Exod. 24
 - (ii) An eternal covenant – sealed by the blood of the Son of God!
APPLICATION: What a deep, deep, deep, thing!
APPLICATION: How safe you are if a believer. How guilty you are if not.

3. THE ASSURANCE OF OUR FINAL PERFECTION

- 1) "Make you perfect": this is the only state in which you + I can have perfect peace.
- 2) Sanctification is gradually coming to a state of perfection.
ILLUSTRATION: learning the piano, violin.
- 3) God "works in us" that which is pleasing to him = obedience.
- 4) The work goes on till the believer is in heaven, perfect in every way + for all eternity to come.
APPLICATION: If you are at times displeased with your sinful failures, remember this: you will one day be perfect through God's grace.

CONCLUSION

But it is all "through Christ".
And all is to "God's glory".

PSALM**125: 1 – 5****84: 4 – 10****25¹: 16-22**