

Messiah Blesses Peacemakers (Matthew 5:9)

Introduction: Peace on earth, can it be?
The Bible: A story of shalom lost and regained

Blessed are the Peacemakers

What kind of peacemaking is Jesus blessing?

Shalom

forfeited by man (Gen 3)

restored by the cosmic Peacemaker (Eph 2, Col 1)

Peace-makers resolve conflict; Peace-fakers deny or flee conflict

How do we make peace?

Considering our fallen condition, conflict is inevitable

Get the log out of your eye (Matt 7)

Defer to the other person even when you don't have to

Confront sin with the right attitude (Matt 18)

The goal is always reconciliation

for they shall be called sons of God

A "son" resembles his father

A future promise and a present status

Be a peacemaker

If your relationship with God is broken, repent and believe the Gospel

Make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace (Eph 4:3)

Go into the world and be an ambassador of shalom (2 Cor 5:18-21)