

They are blessed because they are unlike anyone else.  
No man can bring  
to return what he does not possess  
Text: Matthew 5:9 Reconciler must have shocked the Jews - wanted war.

INTRODUCTION: Christians are to affect the world in which they live. Their presence ought to make a difference in the quality of conversation, conduct, etc. The presence of Jesus made a difference. The Christian is to affect the world by being a peace-maker.

Def. In a position to receive blessings → curse <sup>mouse that roared</sup>  
In the Bible peace never is only negative; it never means only the absence of trouble; it means everything which makes for man's highest good; something coming into his life which brings the enjoyment of all good. It is the ideal state of life. The Christian is to bring such a condition about. <sup>not peace at any price.</sup>

Healed is for a large number of peacemakers.

I. A PEACEMAKER IS ONE WHO BRINGS MEN TOGETHER.

1. The rabbis held that the highest task which a man could do was to establish the right relationships between man and man.

(1) Jesus is saying here that His disciples will bring into all their relationships a quality which makes for harmony and blessing. <sup>cannot see love of G, but can see love of man</sup>

(2) The climax of Christian character, according to Christ himself, is found in our relations to men, and not to God. The service of man is the outcome of the love of God.

2. There are people who are always storm centers of trouble and bitterness and strife. Wherever they are they are involved in quarrels themselves or the cause of quarrels between others. They are trouble-makers, not peace-makers.

(1) There are people like this in every Church, and such people are doing the devil's own work. No "blessed" was spoken by Jesus upon the disrupters of the church who insist on their false views at the cost of harmony.

(2) The true peace of the Church is a blessed possession, we cannot guard it too closely. Contentious, stubborn, obstreperous Church members--this beatitude ought to make them impossible.

I Cor. 14:33-"God is not the author of confusion, but of peace."

Greatest hindrance to revival

Ill-George Truett:"Most of the trouble in our churches comes from the deacons."

3 To be this kind of peace-maker we need to learn NOT to speak: gossip, talebearing, Judas, babies in the church and the Pastor a nursemaid.

The man who divides the church is doing the devil's work; the one who makes for harmony is doing God's work.

2. He is not always looking in terms of what effect it will have on me.  
"Is this fair to me?" - If I stood on my rights we would all be in hell.  
Jl of Jesus - Phil 2

This is the last beatitude that describes our character

Not the peace of death

Qualification for a peace-maker

io:

### 3 Symbols of Growth:

2- Body -

3-Sheep



## II. A PEACEMAKER IS ONE WHO BRINGS MEN AND GOD TOGETHER

1. The central meaning of peace in the Bible is reconciliation with God. Man's alienation from God is the basic cause of all other conflicts.

This is spiritual peace through restored relations of harmony with God. It is a spiritual experience.

### Scriptures:

Romans 5:10--"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconcilled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconcilled, we shall be saved by his life."

*Jews & Gentiles*  
Ephesians 2:15,16--"Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby."

Colossians 1:20,21--"And having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself, Whether things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconcilled."

2. Peacemaking is God reconcilling the world of sinners and enemies unto Himself. God accomplished this through the death and resurrection of Christ.

Peace and reconciliation are synonymous. Reconciliation is peace with God made possible by the sacrifice of Christ.

3. Christ is the Great Peacemaker, now to be His disciple means that we follow Him, and that we are Peace-makers. Not only bringing man and man together, but man and God together.

Scripture: 2 Cor, 5:18-19--Two things here: Reconciliation is accomplished by:

1. Forgiveness of sins

2. Proclamation of the message.

(1) A Definite and Divine appointment

(2) A sense of urgency

*Conclusion*  
4. The blessing is not on the peace lover, but the peace-maker. He is active, doing something. He is not concerned with maintaining the status quo. Our status is nothing to quo about.

5. "The sons of God." Those who do this are doing a God-like work. The bringing of men to Christ is the nearest thing to the heart of God. [We are most like Christ when we are beseeching men to be reconcilled to God.]

*Blessed = Joy & Soul Winning "Cal Zarris"*

4-16-61 - Valley View Bapt. Dallas, Tex  
9-24-62 Immanuel Bapt. Wagoner, Okla  
1-17-63 - Immanuel Bapt - Eldorado Ark.  
3-15-63 - bluff ave Bapt. Ft. Smith, Ark.  
3-21-63 - FBC - Mingo, Oklahoma  
4-4-63 Oak Cliff Bapt. Fort Smith, Ark.  
10-8-64 FBC - Pea Ridge, Arkansas  
7-15-65 BBC Bells, Texas  
11-14-65 - Munger Place Bapt - Dallas - Texas  
4-14-65 Victory Bapt. Okla City - Okla  
4-6-67 Central Bapt. Bryan, Texas  
5-7-67 - MBBE - Irving, Texas  
3-6-69 - FBC - Alief, Texas