

The Prince of Peace
Isaiah 9:6-7

Danger, helplessness and fear ...

I. Self Inflicted Warfare

- A. Israel's Trouble
- B. Mankind's Mayhem
- C. Everyman's Issue

II. Battle Royal

- A. Cosmic Conflict
- B. Comes to Earth
- C. Enter the Child

III. Prince of Peace

- A. Engages the Enemy
- B. Achieves the Victory
- C. Extends Shalom

... or the hope of Christmas.

Children, Listen ...

1. Do you think the people of the world are at peace with God?
2. There is crime and there are wars. Do you think man is at peace with each other?
3. Who came to bring peace for His people?
4. How does Jesus defeat the enemies of sin, death and the devil?
5. Is there any real and lasting peace without the Prince of Peace Jesus in our lives?

Sar Shalom! ~ Prince of Peace

There is no such thing as a neutral nation in the battle of kingdoms – in fact, there are but two. Beelzebub is the prince of demons and darkness and the Bible tells us that we are by nature under his power and subject to his dominion. In his kingdom there is no peace. But God in His mercy determined that He would have a people unto Himself that would serve Him alone as King and that would live at peace with Him. The two Kingdoms may violently clash, but only one can prevail ... and that would be God's. The conflict rages in the heavenly realms but a battle would be fought on earth. It would be a cosmic (or heavenly) conflict, and for peace from such warfare there must to be a decisive battle to accomplish it. That conflict began in earnest when the Prince of Peace came as God incarnate – the second person of the Trinity in human flesh. The ultimate engagement came in a most extraordinary way in this troubled world; beginning with a humble birth and ending in a miserable death, but that was the divinely perfect plan for lasting peace. It didn't really end there, Jesus ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father – now know better as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The lines of the Kingdom are clearly marked between those who are still at war with God and those who have surrendered to Him through faith in Christ – the former remains in mankind's mayhem; the latter knows peace now and forever. May all the peace of God's Kingdom in Jesus Christ be yours this Advent season as you celebrate the majesty and mystery the Christ Child, your Savior and your King.