"Glorious Peace Shoes" Ephesians 6:15

¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Ephesians 6:15 (NKJV)

- I. True peace, we, the true church, have a monopoly on this desired treasure –
- 1. As much as they might desire it, or falsely promise it, an ungodly world LACKS PEACE —
- ²² "There is no peace," says the LORD, "for the wicked." Isaiah 48:22 (NKJV)
- ²¹ "There is no peace," Says my God, "for the wicked." Isaiah 57:21 (NKJV)
 - A. It is the dream of every beauty queen, and the false promise of every politician, but an ungodly world has no peace --- **Isaiah 48:22 & 57:21**
- B. They cannot have peace because they are under God's wrath & curse One reason an ungodly world does not have peace is because God has ordained war & unrest for sinful people —
- ³When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁴Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that *people* should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword. Revelation 6:3–4 (NKJV)
- C. The Hebrew word for "wicked" used in by Isaiah in these verses רְשָׁע pronounced ra-sha refers to moral guilt. God has given us a conscience; if it is working, it DRIVES US CRAZY for every wrong think we do!

 The internal lack of peace, a person with a conscience feels, is a blessing, as it may result in a person SEEKING God for peace!
 - 2. Yet, what is HORRIBLE is the FALSE CHURCH too often offers a QUACK FALSE PEACE –
- "Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone *is* given to covetousness; And from the prophet even to the priest, Everyone deals falsely. ¹⁴ They have also healed the hurt of My

people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When *there is* no peace. Jeremiah 6:13–14 (NKJV)

- A. Peace with God comes from Christ...
- B. Peace with God starts with the New Birth and a vital faith ...
- C. Going forward in church does not guarantee these things ... Treating conversion and "peace with God" that goes with it as "automatic" is deception.
- 3. A true conversion by the POWER of God's Spirit is needed –
- A. You cannot see God's Kingdom without it -
- ³ Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3 (NKJV)
 - B. You cannot enter God's Kingdom without it-
- ⁵ Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
 - C. The new birth which means a vital change, brought about by God's Spirit should not be treated as "automatic" -
- Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' John
 (NKJV)
 - 4. True Peace comes with the knowledge that Jesus Christ's righteousness was imputed to us —
- 5 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5:1 (NKJV)
 - 5. Being justified means we have access to and our dwellers in the REALM of God's grace —
- ² through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:2 (NKJV)
 - A. Access, like a key
 - B. Stand like a safe place. Good standing with God! God smiles on us!

II. True peace is that glorious SHOE, the youngest true believer can wear, and the more mature believer can wear like a spiritual MASTER Evangelist -

¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Ephesians 6:15 (NKJV)

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6–7 (NKJV)

1. Even regular shoes are practical and can be attractive, there are songs about SHOES —

"Don't Step on My Blue Suede Shoes" Elvis Presley
"Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes" Paul Simon
I even found an online article - "84 Songs about Shoes, High-heels and Boots"

Yet, however great the shoes may be, nothing compares with having your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace –

- 2. Beautiful feet are evangelizing feet –
- ⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good *things*, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7 (NKJV)
 - 3. The world wants and needs "peace" Jesus brings peace, this is the Gospel, the Good News —
 - A. This was the Angel's message when Jesus was born –
- ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and

saying: ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, <u>And on earth peace</u>, goodwill toward men!" Luke 2:10–14 (NKJV)

- B. This is the greeting Jesus instructed His disciples to use –
- ⁴ Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road. ⁵ But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.' Luke 10:4–5 (NKJV)
 - C. This was Jesus' greeting / message when resurrected -
- ¹⁹ Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace *be* with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." John 20:19–21 (NKJV)

As Jesus was sent to bring peace, so He sends us to proclaim that peace!

- 4. The peace is first and foremost, peace with God –
- A. The Gospel / Good News starts with the Bad News -
- ²³ For the wages of sin *is* death,... Romans 6:23 A (NKJV)
- B. But moves quickly to the Good News but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 B (NKJV)

We realize with the BAD NEWS that we are DEAD in trespasses and sin, because of this we are poor in Spirit & we MOURN –

- ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ⁴ Blessed *are* those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. Matthew 5:3–4 (NKJV)
 - C. The Good News Christ communicates in those same verses, we have the Kingdom of Heaven and are comforted \uparrow
- 5 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5:1 (NKJV)

- 5. The youngest Christian can and should know the peace of having sins forgiven, this can be communicated evangelistically!
- 6. Older Christians grow into that peace of God, which surpasses all understanding Philippians 4:7 (NKJV)
- 7. This is that which made Paul and Silas SING in prison, which God paired with an earthquake to save the Philippian jailor –
- ²³ And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw *them* into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴ Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵ But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. ²⁷ And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. ²⁸ But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here." ²⁹ Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
- ³¹ So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. ³⁴ Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household. Acts 16:23–34 (NKJV) *This peace should apply to many situations: finances, health, relationships, even life-threatening situations!*
 - 8. This peace is because we know God is in control –

¹God *is* our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. ² Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; ³ *Though* its waters roar *and* be troubled, *Though* the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah ⁴

There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, The

holy *place* of the tabernacle of the Most High. ⁵ God *is* in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn. ⁶ The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted. ⁷ The LORD of hosts *is* with us; The God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah ⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD, Who has made desolations in the earth. ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire. ¹⁰ Be still, and know that I *am* God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! ¹¹ The LORD of hosts *is* with us; The God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah Psalm 46 (NKJV)

- 9. Knowing "the LORD of Hosts is with us..." Psalm 46:11 He is our reason for calm, for peace, in all situations -
- ³ You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *Whose* mind *is* stayed *on You*, Because he trusts in You. ⁴ Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, *is* everlasting strength. Isaiah 26:3–4 (NKJV)
- ³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? Romans 8:31 (NKJV)
 - III. True peace is a shoe because with it we move; use our feet to take the Gospel to an ungodly, peacedeprived, world –

The Gospel that brings "peace" is not always greeted with "peace" -

²⁷ "Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. ²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. ³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. ³⁴ "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against

her mother-in-law'; ³⁶ and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.' ³⁷ He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸ And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁹ He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it. Matthew 10:27–39 (NKJV)

- 1. We have a message from Christ to preach on the "housetops" notices it does not say church or synagogue **Matthew 10:27**
- 2. You (according to Jesus) will be persecuted Matthew 10:28-34
- 3. Christianity brings division, we are to love Christ and take up His cross **Matthew 10:35-39**