

## ***Pax Christi* John 16:25-33**

**(16:33)** All that Jesus said prior to v.33 is to bring peace.

*Pax Romana* is the peace Rome brought with its power.

*Pax Christi* is the peace that Christ offers with His power.

**John 14:27**, “Peace I leave with you...Not as the world gives...”

**Peace** (*eirene*) is a settled state of the heart--not in conflict.

**2 Timothy 1:12** “I know Whom I have believed...”

*Example: Stephen (Acts 6:15)*



### **1. Peace is a byproduct of faith in God (16:25-31)**

**(16:25)** Jesus used figures of speech because they weren't ready.

**(16:26)** At Jesus death and resurrection, believers approach God directly in prayer. Peace and prayer are linked.

**Phil. 4:6-7** Don't be anxious about anything...but pray.

**(16:27)** God's love for us is the foundation of peace.

**Romans 8:31-35** “If God be for us, who can be against us?”

*Note:* Those loved by God are those who believe He came from God. This is a reference to confessing Him as Lord (God).

**Romans 5:1** Peace in life is preceded by peace with God.

**Romans 1:17** Peace continue as we live obediently to God.

When we doubt God's love, our peace erodes.

Suffering can convince us God does not care.

**Matthew 6:25-26** If God cares about birds, He cares about you.

**(16:28)** Peace is based on faith that God will make all things right.

**Romans 8:30** Jesus looked to a future glorification, as can we.

### **2. Peace cannot be in people (16:29-32)**

*Note:* The Pax Romana ended (27 BC to AD 180).

Rome's peace was only valid as their leaders stayed alive.

**(16:29-30)** The disciples are now confident in their understanding.

Jesus will challenge their confidence in trial (**Prov 24:10**).

**(16:31-32)** Jesus challenges their confidence and reveals how they will abandon Him under trial.

We can trust in people for peace as much as Jesus could the 12.

**Jeremiah 17:5**, “Cursed is the man who trusts in man.”

**(16:32)** “Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me.”

*We may FEEL alone, but it does not mean that we are.*

**Isaiah 41:10** “Fear not...I will help you.”

*Illustration: Horatio Spafford*

### **3. Peace comes from knowing how things end (16:33)**

**16:33** “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace.” The *Pax Christi* is peace IN CHRIST.

This is not a peace from people, circumstances or substances.

As Jesus promises them peace, He promises them tribulation.

God is the One who orchestrates our tribulation: **Lam. 3:38**, “Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that good and bad come?”

**Genesis 50:20** What man meant for evil, God meant for good.

*Peace and tribulation can exist at the same time.*

**Isaiah 26:3** You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.”

“Stayed” = “to lay hold of” (as a priest would an offering).

A mind stayed on Christ clings to Him in trial.

In Jesus' darkest hour, God's glory shone brightest.

**(16:33)** “Take heart” means to embolden oneself.

We are emboldened knowing Jesus has overcome the world.

On the cross, Jesus defeated sin, Satan and death itself.

**(16:33)** The world (*kosmos*) refers to the system that hates us.

**1 Peter 2:23** As Jesus suffered in this world, He entrusted Himself to God who judges rightly.

**(16:33)** “Take heart, I have overcome the world.”

*Note:* If Jesus overcame the world, it means we don't have to.

*IE:* Our peace is not in our own hands to control people and things.

Knowing how things end, Jesus was at peace today.

*Illus: reading the end of a book first.*

**Revelation 21:3-4** The end of our book (Revelation) can bring peace to our hearts today.

