

## **Great**

### 1. Definition

- a. An adjective that reflects an abundance of something
- b. Young's Literal Translation reads, "Abundant peace have those loving Thy law, And they have no stumbling-block."
- c. No small amount of peace is mentioned here

## **Peace**

### 1. *shalom* ([Ps. 119:165](#))

- a. 237 times in the Bible is this Hebrew word found
- b. The word is translated as "peace" (173), "well" (11), "peaceable/peaceably" (11), "welfare" (5), "prosperity/prosperous" (5), "salute/saluted" (4), and "safe/safely" (2) to name the most common occurrences

### 2. Peace as found in the Psalms and Proverbs

- a. The LORD blesses His people with peace ([Ps. 29:11](#))
- b. Peace must be sought after ([Ps. 34:14](#) cited in [1 Pt. 3:11](#))
- c. The meek delight in the abundance of peace ([Ps. 37:11](#) cited in [Mt. 5:5](#))
- d. End of the perfect and upright person is peace ([Ps. 37:37](#))
  - i. "...For there is a *happy* end to the man of peace." (ASV)
- e. God speaks peace to His people ([Ps. 85:8](#))
- f. Righteousness and peace are close enough to kiss ([Ps. 85:10](#))
- g. Wisdom's paths are peace ([Pr. 3:17](#))
- h. Peace brings joy ([Pr. 12:20](#))

### 3. Christ is the Prince of Peace

- a. In fulfillment ([Lk. 1:79](#), [2:11-14](#); [Eph. 2:11-17](#); [Col. 1:20](#); [Rm. 5:1-2](#))
- b. In instruction ([Mt. 5:9](#); [Mk. 9:50](#))
  - i. Golden rule ([Mt. 7:12](#))
  - ii. Sadly, some will not believe and obey and lack of peace follows ([Mt. 10:34-39](#); cf. [Lk. 12:51-53](#))
- c. In promise ([Jn. 14:27-28](#), [16:33](#))

### 4. New Testament Peace

- a. The gospel of peace ([Acts 10:34-43](#); [Rm. 10:15](#))
  - i. Fruit of righteousness is sown in peace ([Jm. 3:18](#))
- b. Peace is part of the prize ([Rm. 2:1-16](#) esp. [Rm. 2:10](#))
  - i. As a Christian, you can have peace now and later!
- c. To be spiritually minded is life and peace ([Rm. 8:6](#))

- d. As much as possible, we should live peaceably with others ([Rm. 12:18](#))
- e. The kingdom of God (church) is righteousness, peace, and joy ([Rm. 14:17-19](#))
  - i. Must follow (pursue) after peace ([Rm. 14:19](#))
- f. God is of peace ([1 Cor. 14:33](#))
- g. We should live in peace ([2 Cor. 13:11](#))
- h. Peace is one of the character traits which makes up the fruit of the Spirit ([Gal. 5:22](#))
- i. Peace upon them that walk, “according to this rule” ([Gal. 6:16](#))
  - i. rule (*kanon* G2583 kan-ohn’) indicates a “a straight rod,” used as a ruler or measuring instrument (Vine 496)
  - ii. “In general the word thus came to serve for anything regulating the actions of men, as a standard or principle.” (Vine 496)
- j. Feet shod with, “the preparation of the gospel of peace” ([Eph. 6:15](#))
- k. Peace of God keeps (guards) our hearts and minds through Christ ([Phil. 4:4-9](#))

### **Have They Which Love Thy Law**

- 1. Great peace comes to those who love God’s Law
  - a. love (*ahab* H157 aw-hab’) basically this verb is equivalent to the English “to love” in the sense of having a strong emotional attachment to and desire either to possess or to be in the presence of the object (Vine 141)
  - b. This same word is used in [Dt. 6:5](#)
  - c. It is a love that is shown ([1 Jn. 4:7-11](#))
  - d. If I love God’s Law, it will be shown in my attitude and behavior toward it

### **Conclusion**

- 1. If we love God’s Law not only will we have great peace but nothing shall offend or cause us to stumble
  - a. Our stumbling occurs when our love for God’s Law wanes
  - b. Our stumbling occurs when we fail to take heed ([1 Cor. 10:12](#))
  - c. If we practice the Christian graces in our lives we shall never fall, and Heaven awaits us ([2 Pt. 1:10-11](#))
- 2. If we are on the Lord’s side who can be against us? ([Rm. 8:31](#))
- 3. Let us spread the glorious gospel message of peace and bring peace to others as we continue to enjoy it in our lives!