

## Shiloh Ephesians 2:14-18

INTRO: What is Shiloh? Shiloh is peace; Shiloh is the Prince of Peace. Shiloh is the author of peace. Shiloh is the one who brings peace. Shiloh is the Lord Jesus Christ. Jacob, the Patriarch, son of Isaac and Rebekah, was privileged to see this at the end of his long and eventful life. He blessed his sons and the tribes that would come out of them. When he comes to Judah, he says, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet until Shiloh come..." (Gen. 49:10). Old Jacob didn't understand it fully, but he understood the purpose of God and saw that out of Judah Shiloh would come. He saw the promised Messiah, the Prince of peace, the one who would bring peace. He saw in the distance Shiloh.

Isaiah, it seems, had this prophecy in mind when he spoke of a virgin born son: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). Then in Isaiah 9:14, he goes on to say that His name would be, "...the Prince of Peace."

In Micah 5:2, we have the prophecy concerning the birthplace of the Messiah; and then in Micah 5:5, we read, "And this man shall be the peace..." That is Shiloh!

Revelation 5:5 clearly identifies Jesus Christ with the prophecy in Genesis 49:10 by calling Him, "the Lion of the tribe of Judah."

Once the tribe of Judah attained leadership of Israel under King David, the scepter position of leadership never departed until after Jesus Christ came. In 70 AD, the scepter passed from Judah, so the Messiah had to have come before that.

### I. VS. 14-16, HE IS OUR SHILOH

A. Vs. 14, Christ is our peace. To have peace with God, you must have Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. It is Christ who shed His blood, and it is the blood that brings peace (vs 13).

1. "He is our peace..." In the Greek this comes out as "He Himself" or "He alone is our peace."

2. "He alone is our peace." What everything else could not do, He alone, in His own person, has accomplished.

a. Works could not bring peace (Eph. 2:8-9).

- b. The things of the flesh could not bring peace: drugs, alcohol, accomplishments, sex, etc.
    - c. The world peace organizations have failed to bring peace.
  - 3. Belief in the resurrected Christ brings peace (John 20:19-20). When we trust Christ as Savior, we have:
    - a. Peace with God- Rom. 5:1,
    - b. The Peace of God- Phil. 4:7,
    - c. The God of Peace- Phil. 4:9.
  - 4. Christ alone is our peace. Without Him, there is no peace. Sociology, psychology, and all the other ologies will not bring peace. Only Christ brings peace. He alone is Shiloh. He Himself is our peace.
  - 5. Christ has made Jew and Gentile one. He has "broken down the middle wall of partition between us."
    - a. At the Temple, the Gentiles were not allowed into the Court of the People, the Jews. A wall divided them, a middle wall of partition.
    - b. He who brings peace has knocked down and flattened the partitions. Even the veil to the holy of holies has been rent. The high priest was allowed to go behind the veil once a year on the day of atonement, but now believers, Jew and Gentile, can come boldly to the throne of grace because of the blood. Those who once called each other names, now worship together at Ephesus. Christ is the peace maker.
- B. Vs. 15, Christ has brought peace to the Jew and Gentile by abolishing in His flesh, the law.
  - 1. The law was the cause of the enmity between Jews and Gentiles.
    - a. The Gentiles were unconcerned about the law.
    - b. The Jews sought to keep the law with its commandments and regulations.

- c. Believing Jews and Gentiles are now at peace because of the death of Christ. The term “in the flesh” means the death of Christ. The blood of Christ has brought peace.
      - 1.) Col. 1:20-22,
      - 2.) Heb. 10:19-20.
    - 2. The term “new man” means that Jews do not become Gentiles, and Gentiles do not become Jews. They are both Christians by believing and the new birth. Jews and Gentiles are in the family of God.
- C. Vs. 16, Both Jews and Gentiles are saved the same way: by the Gospel of peace (Rom. 10:15; Eph. 6:15).
  - 1. “Reconcile” means to bring back into harmony. Adam’s sin separated man from God. The blood of Christ brings us back to God.
  - 2. Only the finished work of Christ on the cross could reconcile us to God:
    - a. I Pet. 3:18: “For Christ hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, to bring us to God....”
    - b. Eph. 2:13.
  - 3. “One body” is the *ekklesia*, the local, visible church.

## II. VS. 17, THE PROCLAMATION OF PEACE

- A. Christ preached peace to:
  - 1. Those afar off-- the Gentiles.
    - a. Dead, disobedient, depraved, dead.
    - b. Without God, Christ, hope or citizenship.
  - 2. Those that were nigh-- Jews.
    - a. Special privileges.
    - b. Knowledge of the true God.
- B. Jesus came as the Prince of Peace with a message that brings peace.
  - 1. “Came” means that the sinless life of Christ, and His earthly ministry were proclamations of grace.
  - 2. Luke 19:10: “The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
- C. You may be far from God. Trust Christ, and He will save you.

III. VS. 18, APPROACHING THE FATHER

- A. "Through Him," Christ Jesus-- "we both", Jews and Gentiles have access by one Spirit unto the Father." Note the Trinity in this verse.
- B. It is through the finished work of Christ, His blood (vs 13), His flesh as our sacrifice (vs 15), His cross (vs 16), that we have "access" which means the ability to approach the Father by the Holy Spirit.
- C. "What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer." We can bring our confessions and petitions directly to the throne room because of the blood (Heb. 10:19-22).

CONCLUSION: There is only one way to peace for you, the blood of Jesus Christ (John 14:6).

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