

## Finding Peace Even in a Pandemic

*“Jesus said unto them, Peace Be unto You. – John 20:19*

*“Then said Jesus to them again, Peace Be unto You.” - John 20:21*

**Two Sundays in a row, the newly resurrected Christ appeared to His disciples. His first mission was to calm their fears by proclaiming His victory over suffering and death! In each appearance, He did not begin with our usual salutations: How are you doing? What are you up to? His words, a balm to troubled souls, went straight to the point: they had seen their friend and Master literally torn apart, humiliated and brutally murdered. They were a sad and sorry bunch, practicing “social isolation” so as not to suffer the same fate as Jesus. They sorely needed comforting words to stabilize their world. *“Peace Be unto You”***

**Today as we assess the mental, emotional, financial and social upheaval caused by COVID-19, the Spirit of God is also saying to us, individually and collectively, *“Peace Be unto You.”* In fact, this has been God’s will and message to us, from Eden to Eternity! The Garden of Eden was a Place of Peace (Genesis 2). The New Heaven and Earth will be a Place of Peace (Revelations 21). In the interim, we as Mechanics, are called to bring the *Peace of God* into a world experiencing unprecedented conflict and trauma.**

**But Peace defined is an elusive commodity: *“a state of quiet or tranquility, freedom from disturbance, dispute or agitation.”* (Webster). How do we get there? Hear the words of the Prophet Isaiah 26:3 – **“Thou Wilt Keep Them in Perfect Peace, Whose Mind Is Stayed on Thee, Because They Trust in Thee.”****

**The Path to Perfect Peace, therefore, (even in the Pandemic) is to maintain a clear and constant focus on the benevolent Power of the Universe and to draw Positive Energy from our Creator and Sustainer, who minute by minute whisper *“Peace Be unto You.”* God is saying, **“I got this!”** The theme of Peace was strong with Jesus. The night before His crucifixion, Jesus promised his disciples: *“Peace I Leave with You, MY Peace I Give unto You, Not as The World Giveth Give I Unto You, Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled, Neither Let It Be Afraid.”*” (John 14:27).**

**CHORUS: “I’ve got Peace like a river, I’ve got Peace like a river, I’ve got Peace like a river in my soul; I’ve got Love, Joy and Gladness, Lord, despite all the Madness: I’ve got Peace like a river in my soul.”**

**PRAYER:**

**In Thee, O Lord we find the fullness of our Peace. Give us this day Eyes of Faith, to see Your Divine Providence, a Heart of Love to embrace the opportunities coming our way, and the Mind of Christ, to love and to serve with compassion for all. Amen.**