



**Peace With God**  
*Romans 5:12; Colossians 1:13; Romans 5:1-2;*  
*John 1:6;4:20*  
**Message from Pastor Martin Hawley**  
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**The Bottom Line:** Peace with God is **possible** because God has made peace with you. We can **experience** peace with God when we stop resisting and striving and simply surrender.

**Introduction:**

Q: What makes you happy? A: **No** Thing.

Q: What makes you happy? A: Sowing.

**Happiness** is an outcome. **Happiness** is not **immediately** accessible.

Happy people are at **peace** with themselves, others, and God.

Peace with God **paves** the way to peace with ourselves and **equips** us to make peace with others.

**The Nature of Resistance**

There are two things that create friction/conflict with God:

(1) Sin and (2) Your Sin.

**Sin**

The New Testament teaches that by no will of your own, you were born in sin. You can go anywhere in sin you want. You have all the rights of sin. This may not be fair, but it is true.

“Therefore, just as **sin** entered the world through **one** man, and **death** through **sin**, and in this way death came to **all** people ... (Romans 5:12).”

We are born separated from God.  
May not be fair, but it is true.

“For he has **rescued** us from the **dominion** of darkness and brought us into the **kingdom** of the Son he loves ... (Colossians 1:13).”

Jesus bridged the gap.

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access ... (Romans 5:1-2).”

### **Sinful Behavior**

There were times when my children viewed me as the enemy. Often, it was in those very times that I was their greatest ally. I resisted them because I am for them. They wanted to do something that was not good for them, and that put us at odds.

A parent’s love is too **strong** to simply go **along**.

Jesus instructed us to view God as a heavenly Father.

**God’s love** is too strong to simply go along.

The New Testament teaching regarding obedience to God centers on our treatment of others. John recapped Jesus’ teaching on our relationship with God and each other this way:

“If we claim to have **fellowship** [peace] with him and yet walk in the darkness, we **lie** and do not live out the truth (1 John 1:6).”

“Whoever claims to love God yet **hates** a brother or sister is a **liar**. For whoever does not **love** their brother or sister, who they have seen, **cannot love God**, whom they have not seen (1 John 4:20).”

### **Application**

Peace with God **begins** with **faith** in Christ.  
Have you made peace with God?

Peace with God is **sustained** by **submission** to Christ.  
Are you at peace with God?

God is looking for you whether you’re looking for him or not.  
Why refuse his offer of peace?

### Conclusion

1. **Sin Separates.** Don’t let it continue to separate you from the One who loves you most and knows what’s best.
2. I’d like to give those of you who have never put your faith in Christ a chance to do so. If you’d like to begin, I want you to pray and tell God that you’re putting your faith in Christ as your Savior. You’re walking across that bridge.
3. If you’re a Christian with sin in your life, and you’re ready to make peace with God, I want you to pray and confess your sin to God. Let him know you repent and are walking away from your sin. Ask him to cleanse your conscience and give you a pure heart.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- Memorize: Colossians 1:13.**
- Pastor, today I made peace with God by trusting Jesus as my Savior .**
- Pastor, today I am at peace with God by confessing and repenting of my sin.**
- Come back next week for Part 4 of *What Makes You Happy*.**