Daily Devotion For December 23, 2022

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace**." Isaiah 9:6

This week, Vladmir Zelensky visited our nation's capitol and shared with the American people the ongoing devastation that his country of Ukraine is still going through after months of fighting and thousands of people injured and dead. On the second Sunday of advent, we were reminded of the candle of peace.

Scripture reveals to us that our God is the giver, sustainer, and author of peace. In order for us to fully grasp and live with the peace promised to us in Scripture, we must first understand that the nature and character of God is one of peace.

Scripture is filled with declarations about God's peaceful nature and desire for peace on earth. I Corinthians 14:33 says, "For God is not a God of confusion but of peace." Romans 14:17 says, "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." Philippians 4:9 says, "What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." And on the night of Jesus' birth the angels declared "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

God longs for you to experience His peace in the midst of any circumstance that you might find yourself today. Nothing robs God of his peace. Nothing can take it away. Peace is within the very nature of our Creator. And when we come to him, open our heart, and receive his presence we can experience His peace.

Thought For Today: Reflect and meditate on the peace of God. Where are you without peace today? Cast your burdens and cares upon Him and allow His peace to fill you throughout the day. "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all." 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Today's Prayer Focus: Continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and other parts of the world. Pray for family and friends to know the peace of God. Deo Volente.