

« Peace on earth,Good will to men! »

But where is peace?

## DO YOU NEED PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON?

You probably heard the well known Christmas song « *Peace on earth, goodwill to men* », refering to when the angels appeared to the Bethlehem shepherds, glorifying God for the birth of the Savior. (Luke 2:14)

But as we look around at the current state of the world, the state of our country, of our city or even just in some families, we realize that there is no peace on earth. We cannot help but bow our head in despair, for hate is strong,

violence and insecurity are everywhere, and they seem to mock this song of peace on earth and goodwill to men.

In our weary and adrift world, we can certainly understand the longing for "peace on earth, goodwill to men." However, the kind of peace the angels announced to Bethlehem's shepherds at the birth of the Baby Jesus has not much to do with earthly peace. The prophecy of Isaiah concerning the Messiah speaks to the truth of this: He would be called "*Prince of Peace*," and of His peace, "there will be no end". (Isaiah 9:6-7)

The angels sang of an *ultimate* Peace. Jesus said, "My peace I give to you, not as the world giveth give I unto you." (John 14:27). The Bible also talk of "the peace which passeth understanding », so needed in our confusing, unstable and threatening world. Peace in our soul.

Jesus was born so that we could be at peace with God, by His sacrifice on the cross. He came and died to pay for our sins and reconciliate us with God.

Peace, reconciliation, and salvation, are not the fruits of man's efforts but of God who shows mercy toward us. We are the objects of His goodwill and pleasure. He loves us, has mercy and compassion on us, and is gracious to us. In Christ, we find the peace, reconciliation, righteousness, forgiveness, life, and salvation for sinful men.

Jesus came to bring peace to all who would receive Him — along with comfort, joy, and salvation. And when He returns, He will bring peace to the whole world.

Do you need peace? Have you felt unsettled and concerned this year? Let this Christmas season give you clarity about the only Person who can bring peace on earth and goodwill to men — including at the personal, family, national, and international levels.

Peace on Earth, goodwill to men. HAPPY CHRISTMAS!