

## **Is Peace Possible?**

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In the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke we read the story of the birth of the Christ child and the angels making the announcement to the shepherds. In their song, the angels sang, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill towards men.” If we look around us, listen to the news, hear the talk on the streets, we could very easily be persuaded that such a statement, as sung by the angels, is a lofty ideal, but not really attainable. Most people would agree that it is a ‘pie in the sky’ objective.

I don't believe for one minute that you or I could change the world and solve all the problems that we are aware of, but I do believe that we can certainly make a difference. We can be willing to change, to have the Lord change, our hearts and the way we do 'business'. The latter part of verse 14 of Luke, chapter 2, says that *God's favour rests on men*. He is with us, continually, to help us be the expression of His will on earth. We are His vessels through which He will work to accomplish His ends.

The thought crossed my mind that if we were; a) **understanding**, **compassionate**, and **gentle** toward those who are facing struggles or difficulties in their lives and b) if we were **forgiving** of others for the things they have done, or *we think they have done*, against us, then the outcome would be “Peace”, at least within the sphere of our influence. I don't think God expects anymore than that.

May we seek to have God change our hearts and minds, that we may be expressions of His love in our interrelationships with those with whom we have contact, day by day.

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