

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you; not as the world gives peace do I give to you."

But what is the basis for this peace that Jesus gives us?

Jesus takes pains to tell us.

(1) He has gone to prepare a place for us in our Father's house. (John 14:2).

(2) He is coming to take us to himself so that we can be with him. (John 14:3). See Matthew 1:23 (And he shall be called Emmanuel, which means, "God with us.").

(3) He has shown us the Father. (John 14:7).

(4) He will do whatever we ask in his name. (John 14:13-14). See Matthew 7:7 (Ask and ye shall receive).

(5) God gives us a helper and comforter to be with us forever. (John 14:16).

(6) God gives us the Holy Spirit, who is God himself, to live in us. (John 14:17).
See Romans 8:9-11 (The Father will give life to our mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in us).

(7) Because Jesus lives, we also will live forever with him. (John 14:19).

(8) Jesus is in the Father, and we are in Jesus and he is in us. (John 14:20).

(9) Jesus manifests himself to those who love him. (John 14:21). See James 4:8 (Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you).

(10) Jesus and the Father will make their home with those who love Jesus. (John 14:23).

(11) We are already clean because of the word Jesus has spoken to us. (John 15:3).

(12) Jesus calls us his friends. (John 15:15). See Psalm 25:14 (The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them).

(13) Jesus has chosen us to be his disciples and bear fruit. (John 15:16). See Ephesians 1:4 (Even as [God] chose us in [Christ] before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him).

(14) The Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth. (John 16:13). See Psalm 32:8 (I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you). Cf. Ps. 25:12.

(15) The Father himself loves us. (John 16:27). See Romans 5:8 (But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us).

(16) Even though we will have trouble in this world (and right now we are having more than our usual share of it), Jesus has overcome the world. (John 16:33). See Isaiah 43:2 (When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you).

And these are just the things Jesus said on the evening of his trial and death sentence. More reassurances are given elsewhere. These are the promises that should undergird our peace, and give us great peace in all circumstances. Indeed, Jesus concludes: "I have said these things to you so that *in me* you might have peace." (John 16:33).

And the world needs this peace!