



Every Good and Perfect Gift is from Above

James 1:17

Prince of Peace

"He will be called ... Prince of Peace"

We refer to Christmas as the season of peace and goodwill. Indeed the angels' song was a message of peace. Our world, weary with war, needs this message like it needs no other. It is strange that with all our advances in technology, with all our international organizations, and with all our means of instant communications we are plagued by war as much as any previous generation of humankind.

The Messiah the Old Testament prophet dreamt of was to be the "Prince of Peace". The Hebrew idea of peace was a much bigger one than ours. Whilst we hold a somewhat negative idea (the absence of war or armed conflict) the people of the Bible thought of peace in a beautiful and positive way. It was the absence of strife. But it was more. It was more in the line of what we would call providence.

Peace was getting on tilling the soil, reaping crops, having families, developing community life, worshipping and glorifying God. Peace was well-being, moving forward, promoting human good, health and happiness. It started with beating swords into ploughshares, and went on to the harvesting of abundant crops.

Today we celebrate again the coming of Christ. Christ is a Greek word meaning the same as the Hebrew Messiah, which in turn means God's anointed one. He comes again, God's anointed one, as the Prince of this bigger Peace, the peace that makes people whole, builds up families, strengthens communities, encourages love and promotes human flourishing.

SHALOM = PEACE

This Christmas celebrate His coming and decide in what small way you can contribute to the peace He brings.

**"Lord, let peace flourish and all
humankind celebrate"**



Bruce, Elzunia and the Diaconate wish you and your
family a very blessed Christmas
and an eventful New Year.

Jesus
IS THE REASON
FOR THE
Season

The Empty Chair

by Bruce Woolard.



Christmas may be a difficult time for families who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Why not consider placing an empty chair at the table which represents their life and the role that they have played in your life, rejoicing in the fact that they are celebrating this time with the Lord our God Who is King and Sovereign over all things.

We as Christians have the blessed assurance that our precious family members who have passed on are with the Lord in heaven, rejoicing. Why be sad when your loved one is glad.



7 Blessings from God's Presence

1. Above you – to guard (Deut. 4:39)
2. Underneath – to support (Deut. 33:27)
3. Behind us a reward (Isa. 52:12)
4. Before – to lead (Isa. 45:2)
5. At your right hand – to protect (Ps. 16:8, 110:5)
6. Round about – to shield (Ps. 125:2)
7. Within – as Companion and Comforter (Ezek. 36:27)



And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace,
good will toward men.

Luke 2:14



BANKING DETAILS:

St Davids Congregational Church

Nedbank, Greenacres Branch No: 126817

Acc No: (Chq) 1268 035 025



CHURCH OFFICE ANNUAL CLOSING PERIOD IN DECEMBER

The church office is closed as Elzunia is on leave and will re-open in the New Year 2026 on Monday 12/01/2026 at 8:30am.

Elzunia is on call for emergencies during this period.



FM99.2

