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Jehovah Shalom — The Lord is Peace

This time of year, we are supposed to take time to celebrate the Reason for the season which of course is the birth of Jesus. But in our pursuit of doing all the good things that go along with this time of year, are we taking time to remember and meditate on the best? While listening to and singing with the beautiful carols, have they become so familiar that we have forgotten the One about whom they celebrate? Jesus. The Son of God. The Prince of Peace.



Recently, my husband and I saw the movie, "Christmas with the Chosen: The Messengers." It was a wonderful time of worship with music and teaching followed by a beautiful portrayal of the story of Jesus birth. Part of the teaching in the film was to dig deeper into some of the names of God. One

that resonated strongly with me was Jehovah Shalom—The Lord is Peace.



Shalom is so much more than just the word "peace." It is also a greeting and is used as a farewell. It represents peace as a mindset. Peace as a way of life. Peace as contentment, regardless of the circumstances in which you find yourself. Peace in the midst of chaos, confusion and hurt. Peace in the hustle and bustle of daily life, especially during this time of year.

So, what is peace to you? Is it that time alone in the morning getting the turkey in the oven? Is it the softness of a baby's tiny hand as it grips your finger? Is it in the laughter as family gathers around the table? Is it in the smiles on the children's faces as they experience the magical moments of the season? Is it the comfort in the pain of the first Christmas without a loved one?

For me, peace is at the end of Christmas Day when I leave the kitchen and sit down and take in all that is and all that has been for the day. It is the mess of the opened gifts and the cups strewn about. It

is the full tummies and postures of family resting. It is the lights growing brighter as the sun begins to set. This year, I will seek Jehovah Shalom in more than this time. He is there, always. I only need to see Him.

You too, can take a moment, or many, during the next couple of weeks and just take in the peace. Maybe there isn't much peace in your family gathering or perhaps you are alone. In the times of joy and the times of pain, feel the presence of the Prince of Peace. Take in the peace that is Jehovah Shalom. You can experience that kind of peace at any time and place, either alone or in a room full of people.



May you have a blessed Christmas and find true peace through Jehovah Shalom.

~ Lisa Hill
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Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be GLORY in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen. - Ephesians 3:20