

Peace

Worries over Brexit, concern over inflation at home, alarm over nuclear threats in North Korea, wars, disease and starvation, ever present threats of terrorism – is there no end to the depressing news? Mankind cannot find permanent solutions to the overwhelming problems which beset us.

We recently witnessed the centenary commemoration of Passchendaele, a terrible battle in the 1914–18 war. Remembering the loss of tens of thousands of men who were killed in that massacre led one descendant to hope that the memory ‘would persuade at least one person not to fight’. A worthy sentiment, but we know that “the war to end all wars” did not achieve that end and we are still witnessing conflicts around the world.

One way to cope with bad news is to block it out by enjoying ourselves and having a good time – which is what many people in western society do. But that doesn’t make the threat go away.

The prophet Jeremiah told his listeners that God was not happy with this attitude:

Everyone deals falsely. They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ when there is no peace (Jeremiah 6:13–14).

Real Answers

This magazine tries to show that there is an answer to all these problems – God’s answer recorded in His Word, the Bible. The promise of a new world



order with people living at peace with each other flows through the Bible like a golden thread. Here we read of the work that Jesus will accomplish when he returns from heaven:

Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over his kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever (Isaiah 9:7).

This is the world we would like to live in, isn’t it? But peace will only come as a result of righteousness, with people being pleasing to God.

Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field. The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever (Isaiah 32:16–17).

Only by reading the Bible for ourselves will we understand the full picture of how, through Jesus, God will bring about peace in the world. So let us open it now and discover how you and I can be part of that peaceful world.

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