

## Monday Quotes



### Grains

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.”

—St. Francis of Assisi

### Field

1 I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" 2 Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. 3 Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together. 4 To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. 5 For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. 7 Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers." 8 For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you." 9 For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good. Psalm 122

### Thoughts

A professor from my seminary told a story of learning that his mother died while he was on a tour of the Holy land. He was inconsolable. While experiencing the helplessness of being far away from his family, someone he didn't know well from his group walked up to him and put a hand on his shoulder saying, "Peace be with you." The professor was taken off guard by the words that seemed to come to him at just the right moment; they were like grace carrying the wholeness of Shalom that Jesus shared and that we find in many of the Psalms.

The Psalmist directs his hope for peace at Jerusalem, a lightning rod city that draws attention from diverse religions that claim it as holy and can covet the land. We find an insider's peace for a limited group in some places of scripture, but which in both the Old and New Testaments, lead to the tension of a God greater than our small tribes. With a shalom mentality, peace is about everyone's well-being.

Over the centuries, Psalm 122 has reached people within and outside of Jerusalem (and the Occupied West Bank) when conflict has been leveled off and during periods when systemic oppression of an entire group of people has been at its worst. The verses remain like a wonderful mission statement - to have the intention of sharing peace to the person next to us and beyond, and knowing that it is what God offers to all of us.



This Advent, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus remember the wholeness of Shalom that Christ embodied. May all who love you prosper, and peace be within you. Happy Monday!

### Share

Send any quotes you'd like to share with our network to [cindyc@loppw.org](mailto:cindyc@loppw.org)

All Monday Quotes found under the Resources & Advocacy Tools tab at [www.loppw.org](http://www.loppw.org)

Many Blessings upon you,

Pastor Cindy