# DEVELOPING A THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE OF SHALOM IN THIS BROKEN WORLD

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#### Cries of the World

Poverty crises Terrorism Human-trafficking Guns Refugee

## PUTTING TOGETHER A FALLEN AND BROKEN HUMPTY DUMPATY



"Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
All the king's horses and all the
king's men

Couldn't put Humpty together again."

#### Important Elements in Developing a Theology of Shalom:

- Mission and actions of God
- > Teaching and actions of God's prophets
- > Teachings and actions of Jesus Christ
- Teachings and actions of apostles
- Consistency and unity of scriptural teaching

#### Three Chapters

PAST PRESENT FUTURE

#### **PAST**

### PRESENCE OF SHALOM THE CREATION: GEN. 1:2; 1:31

Gen. 1:2

"Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."



Gen. 1:31

"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

#### PRESENT

#### Gen. 3:23

"So the Lord God banished him (man) from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken."

#### PRESENT

#### A world full of brokenness and problems

- Broken relationships between individuals, communities and nations
- Poverty and displacement caused by greed of power and money
- Domestic and global religious, political, racial and ethnic conflicts
- People victimizing other people
- Destruction of creation

#### **FUTURE**

## ESCHATOLOGICAL SHALOM (Shalom Envisioned/The Kingdom of God) Rev. 21: 3-4

"And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will be with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

#### Three chapters:

We <u>learn</u> from the PAST

We look into the FUTURE

But we live in the PRESENT

#### SHALOM MANDATE

## THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY IN A FALLEN WORLD

#### SHALOM

SHALOM IS THE WHOLENESS, WELL-BEING AND FLOURISHING OF ALL THAT GOD HAS CREATED IN ITS RELATEDNESS.

#### Components of Shalom of God

Shalom with God

Shalom within oneself

3) Shalom with others

4) Shalom with creation

#### Shalom-agents by being:

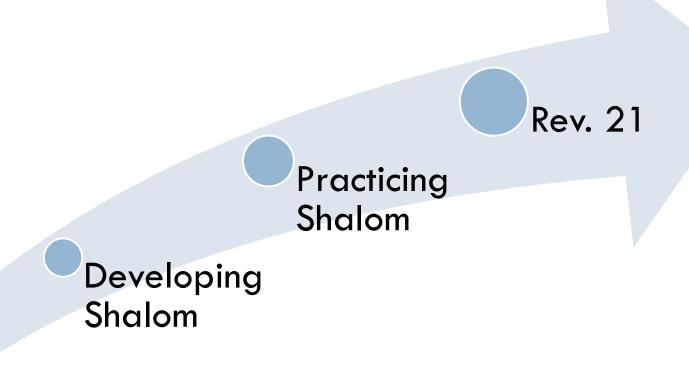
- A prophetic voice
- An advocate of the voiceless
- A nonviolent activist
- An example of shalom practitioner
- Involved

#### Challenges in practicing shalom theology

Theological misunderstandings by some well-meaning Christians

- Prophets sometimes get killed
- Possibility of losing the perspective because of a strong commitment
- Forgetting to "love your enemies"

#### Our mission / calling



Understanding Shalom