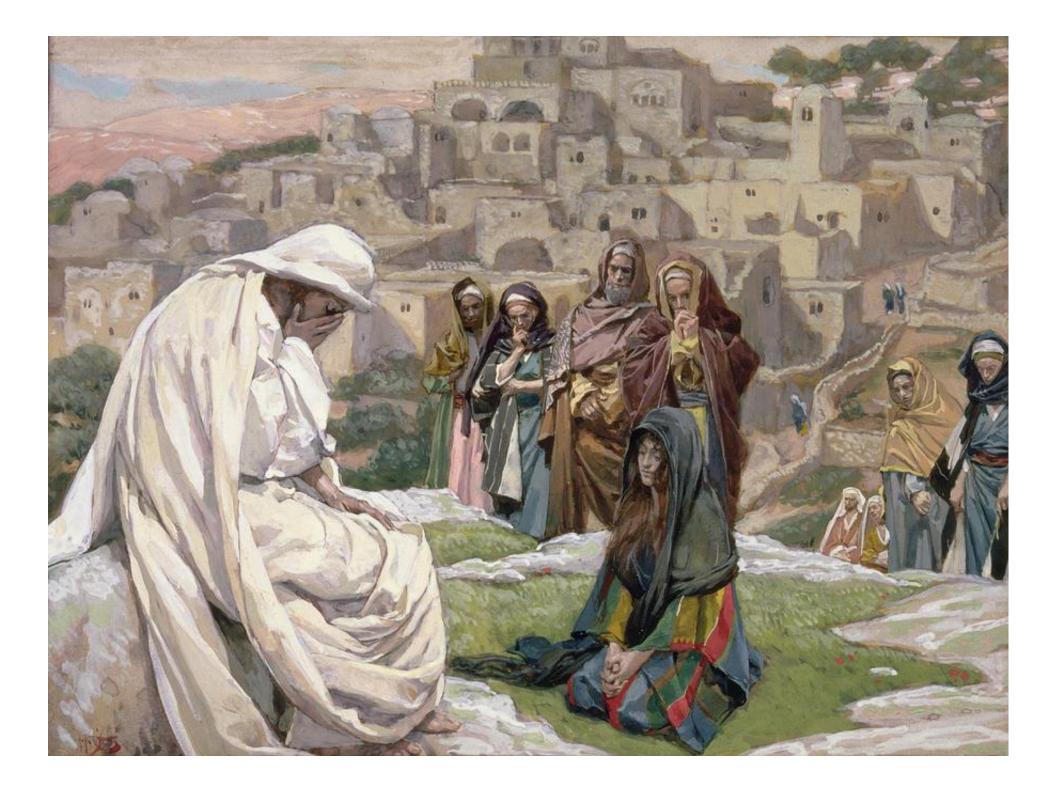
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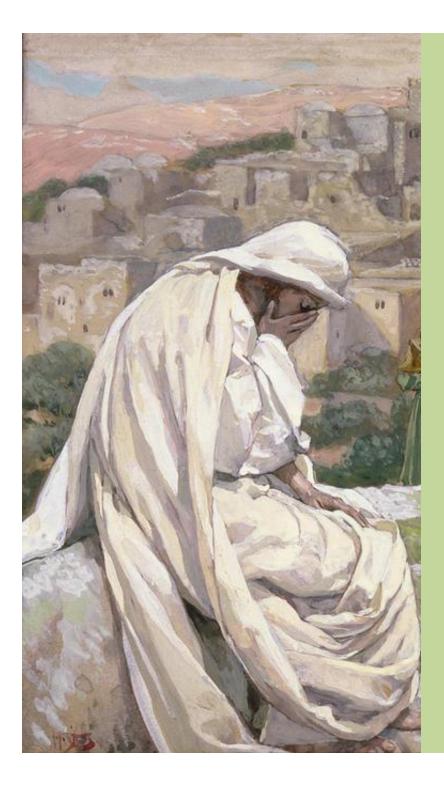
A Lenten Sermon Series at Verona UMC -What are you giving up for Lent?

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MARCH 11 **FEBRUARY 26** MARCH 4 MARCH 25 MARCH 18 APRIL 1 **APRIL 8** VES POP F 1

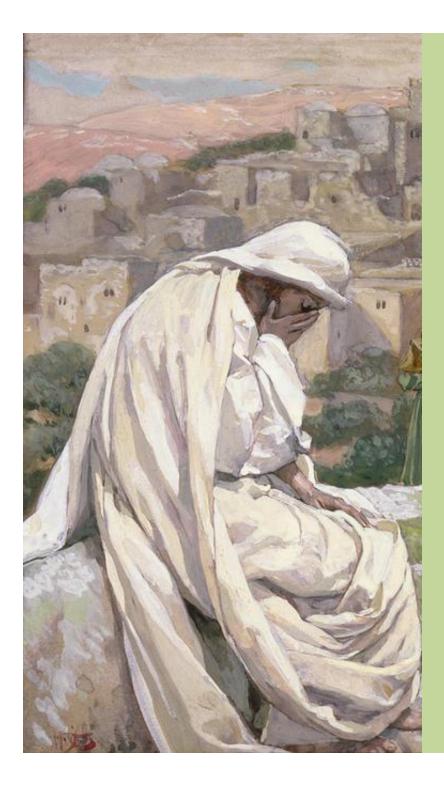
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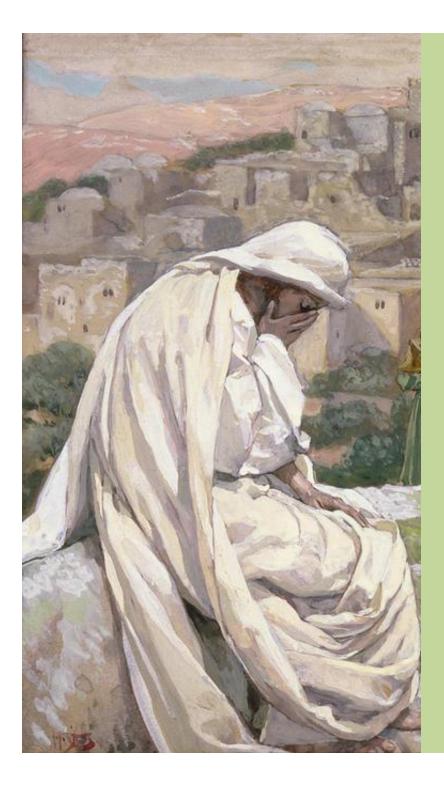


The Irony of the name "Jerusalem"

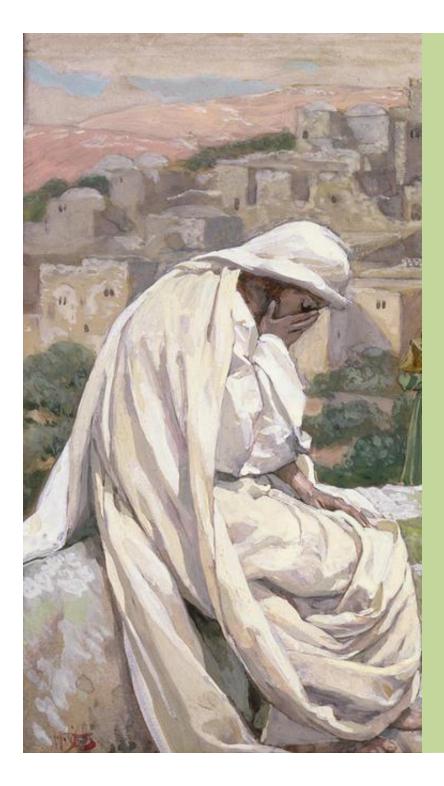
Jeru means foundation. Salem means peace. Yet Jerusalem had over and over reject God's prophets of peace, including Jesus.



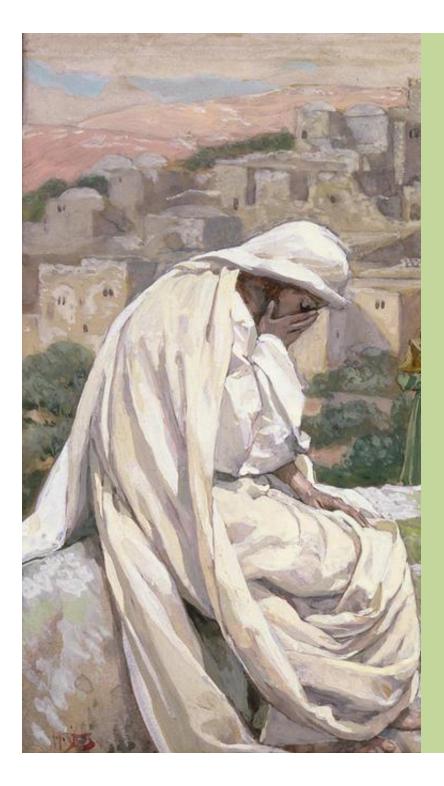
When Jesus weeps for Lazarus in John 11:35, the word "wept" means "shed tears." Here in Luke 19 the word for wept means "to violently, uncontrollably moan and sob."



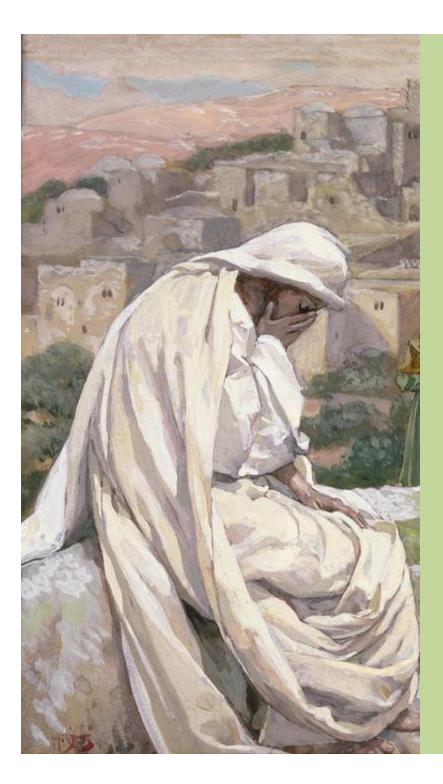
We often ignore God's Spirit of peace and needlessly make and retain enemies



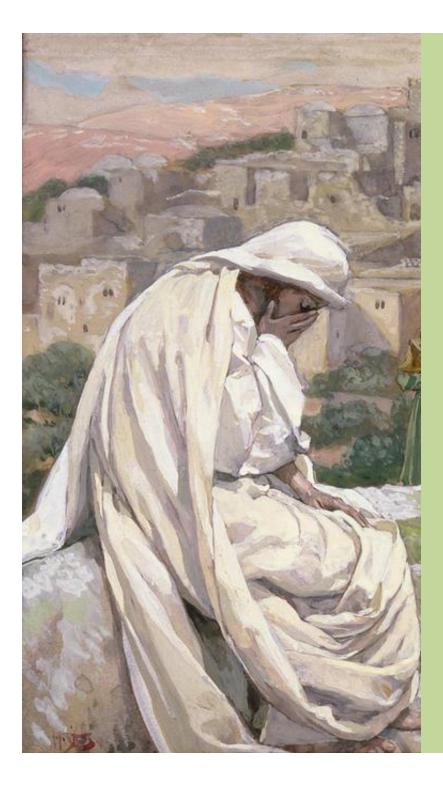
An enemy is anyone who is the target of our enmity, i.e. someone who we resent, seek to injure (either emotionally or physically), and/or actively oppose with rancor



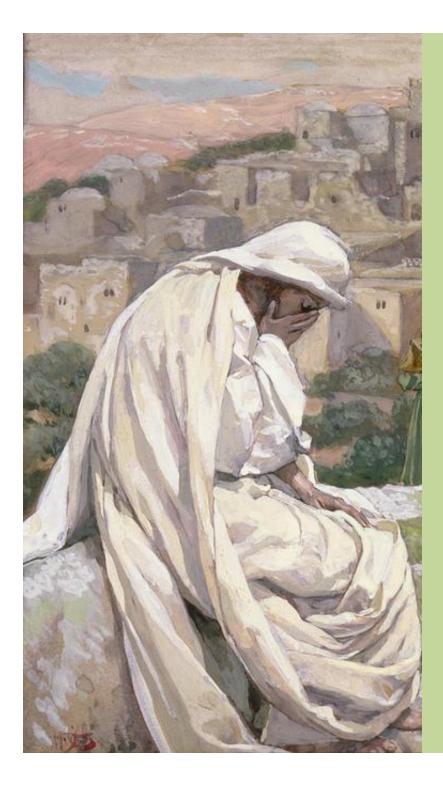
Our stubborn intractability may be the outgrowth of a deeply felt need, born of resentment, jealousy, or a vengeful spirit... the fruit of a fallen nature



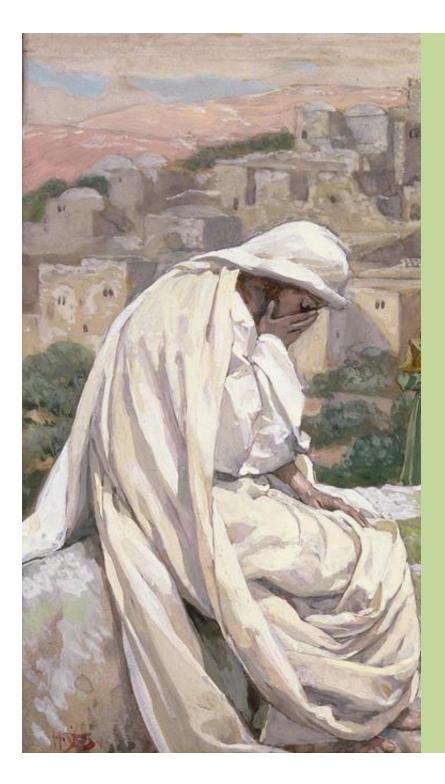
What does Jesus mean by "the things that make for peace"?



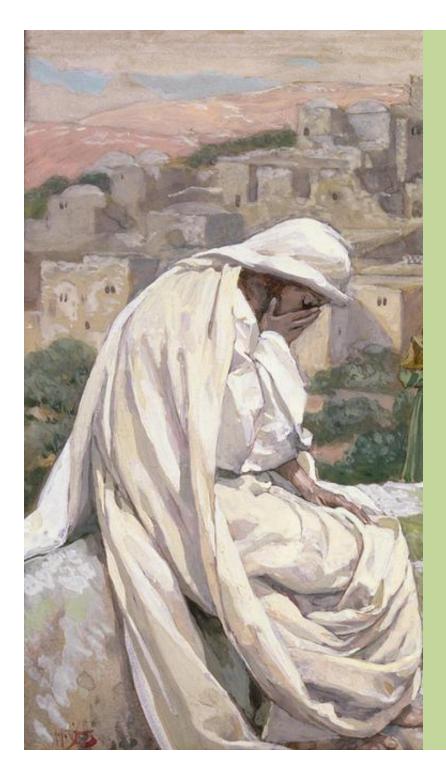
Peace in the context of the **Jewish culture** meant more than the absence of conflict. It meant:



completeness, wholeness, health, peace, welfare, safety soundness, tranquility, prosperity, perfectness, fullness, rest, harmony, the absence of agitation or discord



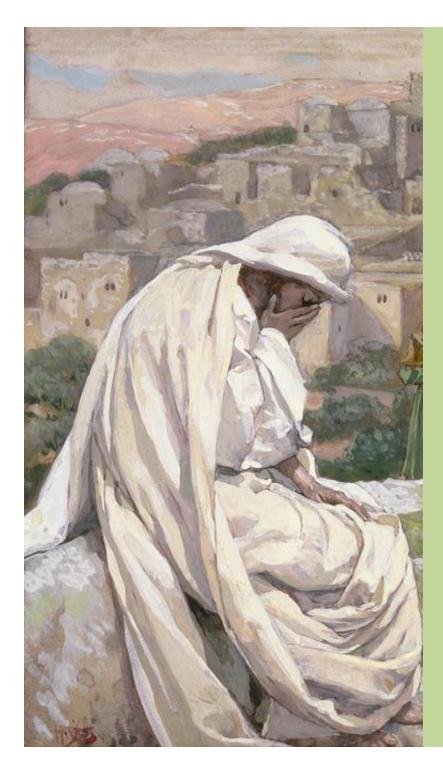
For the follower of Jesus, the **Beatitudes of** Matthew 5 encapsulate the meaning of perfect peace



Matt. 5:1-10: Shalom comes from:

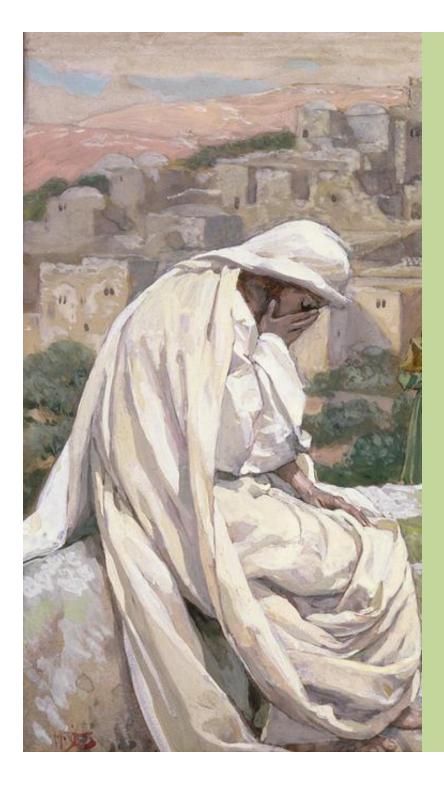
- A humble spirit
- A heart that hurts for a lost world

 A calm and obedient spirit (cont'd)

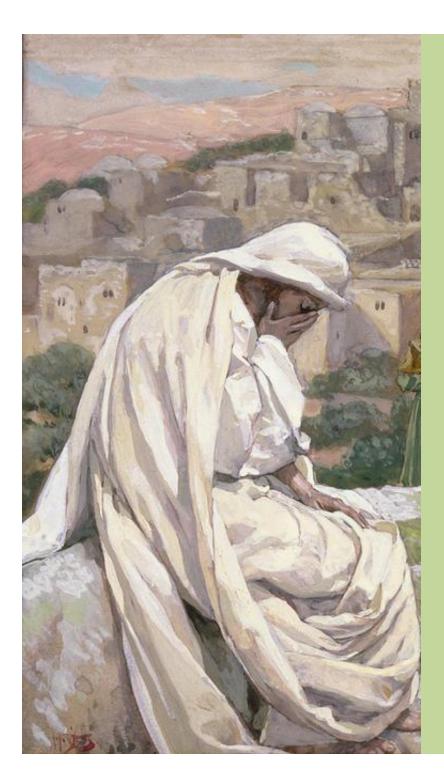


Matt. 5:1-10:

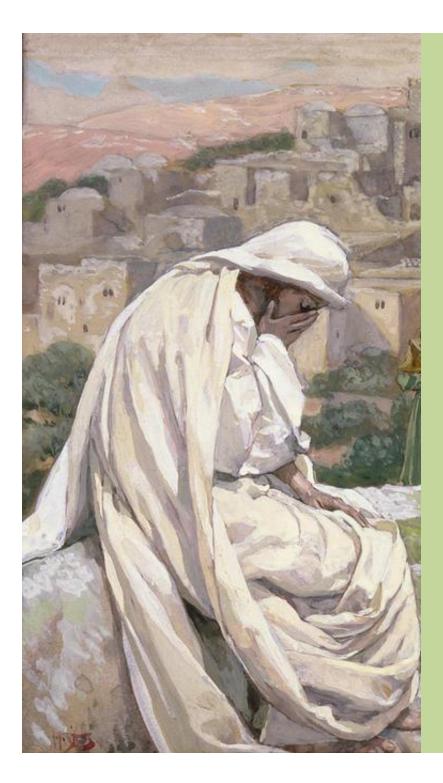
- A deep desire for righteousness
- A merciful heart
- A purity of heart, holiness
- Peacemaking
- Courage



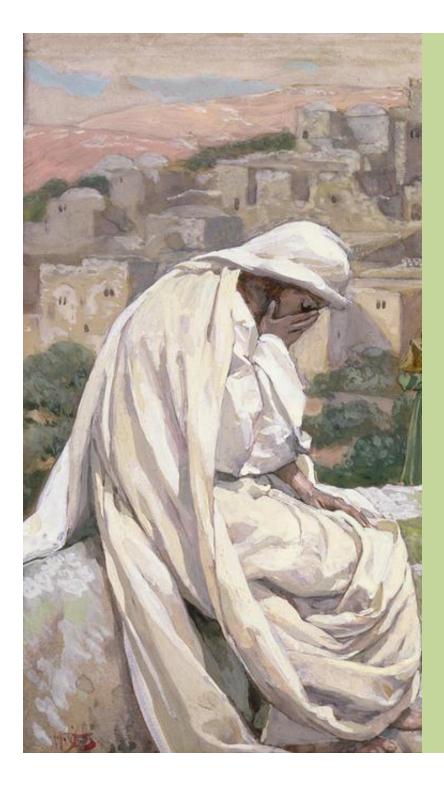
To fully give up our enemies is to embrace this concept of peace, to become actively engaged in peace-making that leads to shalom



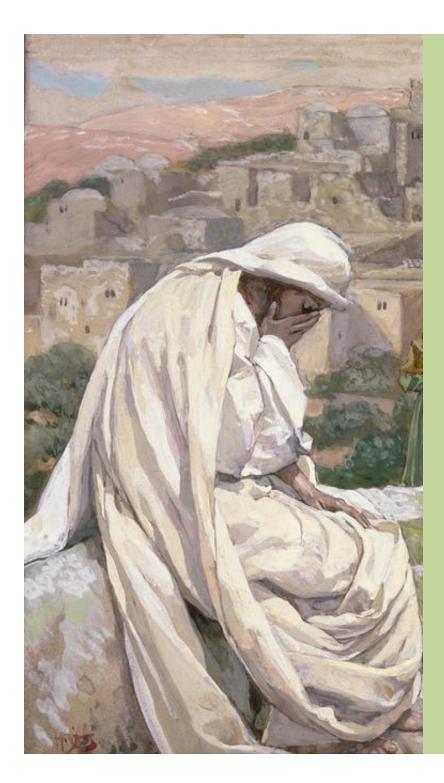
Where does true peace begin?



NO JESUS, NO PEACE. KNOW JESUS, KNOW PEACE.

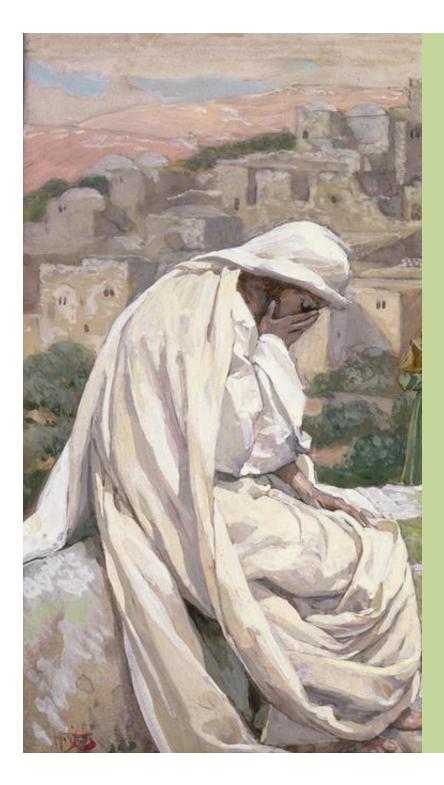


Eph. 1:14-18 For he himself is our peace, who has... destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,... He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.



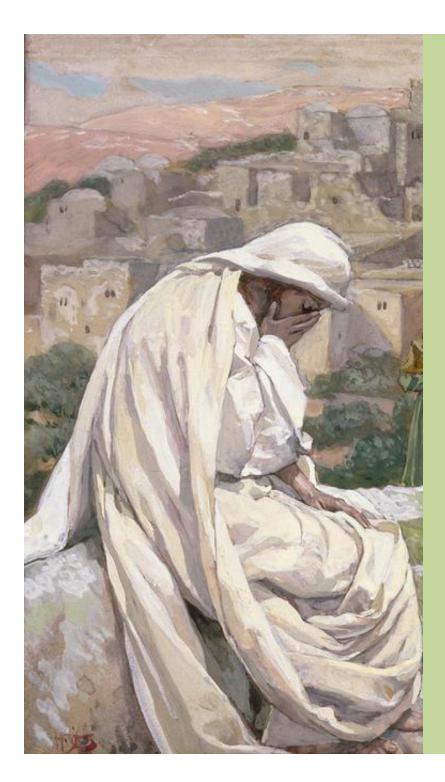
Romans 12:18

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.



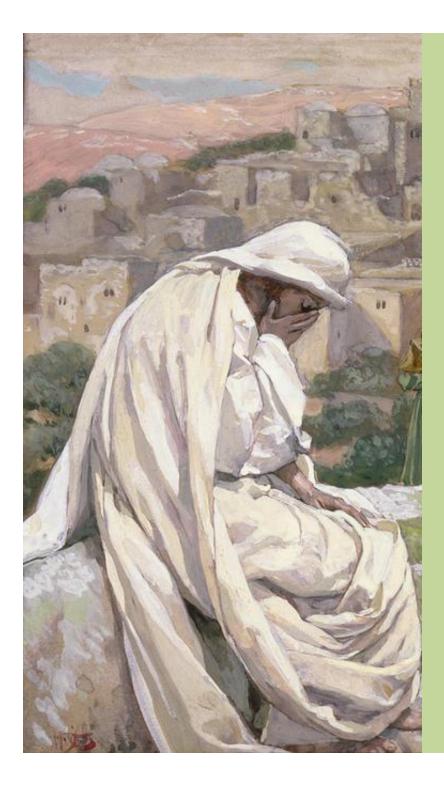
Romans 14:9

Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.



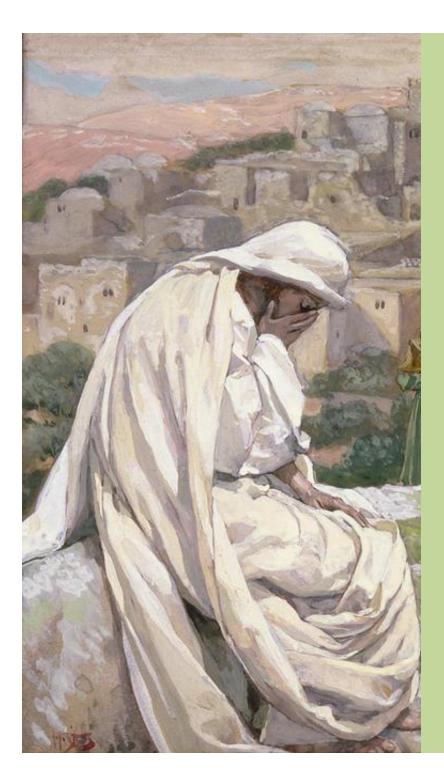
Psalm 34:14

Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

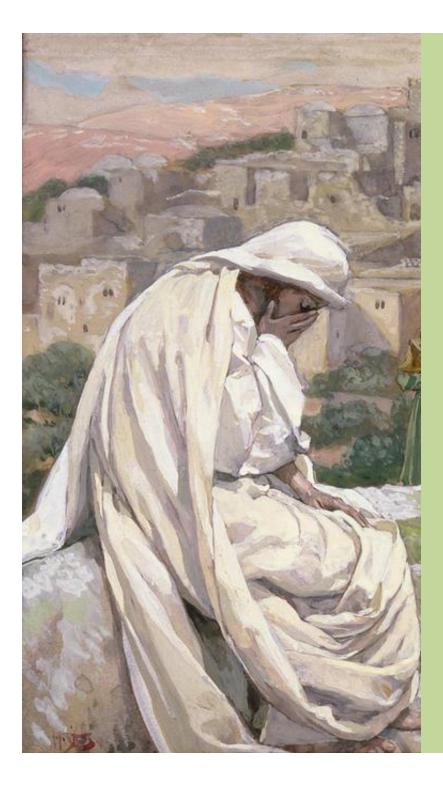


Hebrews 12:14

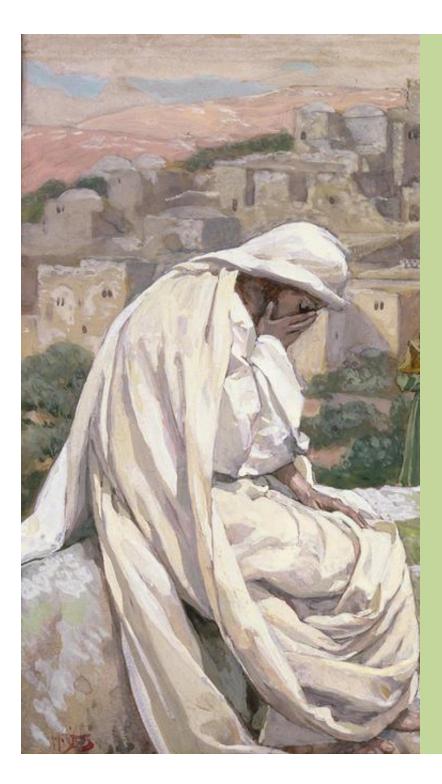
Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.



Having enemies may be the natural result of our faith in Jesus Christ



All four gospel accounts mention that the world will hate us because of Jesus: Matt. 10:22; Luke 21:17; Mark 13:13; John 15:18



Finally, we need to give up our enmity with God

