

## Shalem and Shalom

**2Ch 16:9** For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart *is* perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

The Hebrew word for perfect is:

### H8003

שָׁלֵם

shâlêm

shaw-lame'

From H7999; complete (literally or figuratively); especially friendly. (shalem used by mistake for a name.): - full, just, made ready, peaceable, perfect (-ed), quiet, Shalem [by mistake for a name], whole.

The Hebrew word for peace is:

### H7965

שָׁלוֹם שָׁלֵם

shâlôm shâlôm

shaw-lome', shaw-lome'

From H7999; safe, that is, (figuratively) well, happy, friendly; also (abstractly) welfare, that is, health, prosperity, peace: - X do, familiar, X fare, favour, + friend, X greet, (good) health, (X perfect, such as be at) peace (-able, -ably), prosper (-ity, -ous), rest, safe (-ly), salute, welfare, (X all is, be) well, X wholly.

Both of these words come from the same root word. In studying for this past Wednesday night's Bible study, I realized that the heart that is perfect toward God is a heart that is friendly toward God. It is not at odds with Him, not always countering Him, not continually disagreeing with Him. Not unfriendly. The perfect heart seeks to be at harmony with Him. Approachable. Appreciative.

This is true on many levels of life. The home where the members are unfriendly toward each other will not be a home of peace; rather, it will be marked by discord, fussing, and friction. To be contrary, countering and complaining robs the peace that could have been there. This is true in the family, on the job, and in the church.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:9, Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

-RWT