



July 14, 2016	Nice France	84 dead/ 10 children 202 injured
July 7, 2016	Dallas, TX	5 dead/ 9 injured
July 6, 2016	St. Paul, MN	1 dead
July 5, 2016	Baton Rouge, LA	1 dead
June 12, 2016	Orlando, FLA	50 dead/ 53 injured
Marc 22, 2016	Brussels, Belgium	31 dead/ 300 injured
Dec 2, 2015	San Bernardino, CA	14 dead/ 22 injured
Nov 29, 2015	Colorado Springs, CO	3 dead/ 9 injured
Nov 13, 2016	Paris, France	130 dead/ 368 injured
Oct 1, 2015	Roseburg, OR	9 dead/ 9 injured
July 16, 2015	Chattanooga, TN	5 dead/ 3 injured
June 18, 2015	Charleston, SC	9 dead

You have heard that it is said: love your neighbor and hate your enemies. But, I tell you love your enemies, **that you may be children of your Father in heaven.**

He causes his sun to shine on the evil and the good and causes his rain to fall on the righteous and the unrighteous.

If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even criminals doing that? And if you acknowledge only your own people, what are you doing more than others?

Do not even atheists do that?

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Jesus in Matthew 5

The peace intended in this passage is not merely that of political and economic stability, as in the Greco-Roman world, but peace, in the Hebrew scriptures, includes a sense of wholeness, all that which constitutes well-being.

The "peacemakers," therefore, are not simply those who bring peace between two conflicting parties, but those **actively at work making peace**, bringing about wholeness and well-being among the alienated.

Robert Guelich

Our Response As Peacemakers:

- For some of us that may mean marching in protests and carrying signs that say: *no justice no peace*
- For others it will mean volunteering at a homeless shelter or generously supporting organizations that care for those in need.
- For others it means initiating reconciliation with someone with whom we are in conflict.
- For all of us, it means acknowledging & not ignoring acts of violence or injustice, & demonstrating compassion for victims.
- For all of us, it means making conscious all that within us which hinders our experience of peace, whether that is anger, hatred, unresolved conflict or all manner of judgments of others or ourselves.

