

# Luke 10:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again.

## Analysis

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**And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again.** The phrase *huios eirēnēs* (υἱὸς εἰρήνης, "son of peace") is a Hebraism meaning one characterized by or destined for peace—someone receptive to the gospel. The genitive construction "son of" indicates essential character or belonging (compare "sons of disobedience," Ephesians 2:2; "children of wrath," Ephesians 2:3).

The conditional promise uses *epanapausetai* (ἐπαναπαύσεται, "shall rest upon") from *anapauō* (ἀναπαύω), meaning to give rest, settle upon, or remain. If received, the peace **abides and takes effect**. If rejected, it *hypostrepsei* (ὑποστρέψει, "shall return") to the disciples—they lose nothing and waste no effort. This reveals divine sovereignty in salvation: God has prepared receptive hearts, and faithful witness will find them.

This principle explains varied responses to gospel proclamation. Some are "sons of peace" whom God has prepared (Acts 16:14: Lydia's heart opened); others reject with hostility. The messenger's responsibility is faithful delivery; results belong to God. Paul later wrote of being a "fragrance of life to life" in some, "death to death" in others (2 Corinthians 2:15-16).

## Historical Context

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First-century Jewish culture recognized divine sovereignty in human response. Jesus' teaching that the Father must 'draw' people (John 6:44) and that sheep recognize the shepherd's voice (John 10:4) was familiar. The disciples' experience confirmed this: some welcomed the gospel gladly while others violently opposed it. This doesn't negate human responsibility but affirms that conversion is ultimately God's work. The early church's missionary journeys demonstrated this pattern repeatedly: some believed, others rejected (Acts 13:48; 17:11-13).

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. What does the term 'son of peace' reveal about God's preparation of hearts before the gospel is proclaimed?
2. How should understanding that peace 'returns' to the messenger if rejected comfort those whose witness seems unfruitful?
3. How does this verse balance divine sovereignty in salvation with human responsibility to proclaim the gospel faithfully?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ ἐὰν μέν ἦ ἐκεῖ νίὸς εἰρήνη ἐπαναπαύσεται ἐφ'  
And if G3303 be there the son of peace shall rest to  
G2532 G1437 G5600 G1563 G5207 G1515 G1879 G1909

αὐτὸν ἡ εἰρήνη ὑμῶν· εἰ δὲ μήγε, ἐφ' ὑμᾶς  
it G3588 of peace your G1487 G1161 G3361 to you  
G846 G1515 G5216 G1909 G5209

ἀνακάμψει  
again  
G344

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Thessalonians 3:16** (Peace): Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.

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