

Iohn 20:19-29

"Christmas Bells"

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

I heard the bells on Christmas Day Their old, familiar carols play, And wild and sweet The words repeat Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come, The belfries of all Christendom Had rolled along The unbroken song Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Till ringing, singing on its way, The world revolved from night to day, A voice, a chime. A chant sublime Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Then from each black, accursed mouth The cannon thundered in the South. And with the sound

The carols drowned Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent The hearth-stones of a continent. And made forlorn The households born Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head; "There is no peace on earth," I said; "For hate is strong. And mocks the song Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The Wrong shall fail. The Right prevail, With peace on earth, good-will to men."

RENEWAL QUESTIONS: When you hear the phrase, "guaranteed peace" what comes to mind? How can we cultivate the posture of peacemakers to a weary world? Where are you desperately dependent on Jesus, right now? This week, how will you claim and experience guaranteed peace from Jesus?

Today's message: Neil Tomba April 17, 2022

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