**Saint John Paul II on Peace**

Real peace is not just a matter of structures and mechanisms. It rests, above all, on the adoption of a style of human coexistence marked by mutual acceptance and a capacity to forgive from the heart. We all need to be forgiven by others, so we must all be ready to forgive. Asking and granting forgiveness is something profoundly worthy of every on of us, sometimes it is the only way out of situations marked by age-old and violent hatred. Forgiveness, in its truest and highest form, is a free act of love, but precisely because it is an act of love, it has its own intrinsic demands: the first of which is respect for the truth.

God alone is absolute truth, but He made the heart open to the desire for truth, which He then fully revealed in his incarnate Son. Hence, we are all called to live the truth. Forgiveness, far from precluding the search for truth, actually requires it. Evil that has been done must be acknowledged and, as far as possible, corrected.

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