Mr. Myers

**Mennonites –**

**A Conviction of Peace**

I. Scriptures for the peace position

 A. Matthew 5:38-43 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist one who is \_\_\_\_\_\_. But if any one strikes you on the right \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, turn to him the other also; and if any one would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well; and if any one forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to him who begs from you, and do not refuse him who would borrow from you. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your neighbor and hate your enemy. 'But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

 B. 1 Peter 2:19-21 “For one is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if, mindful of God, he endures pain while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it, if when you do wrong and are beaten for it you take it patiently? But if when you do \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and suffer for it you take it patiently, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in his steps.”

 C. Romans 12:17-21 “Repay no one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemy is hungry, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ him; if he is thirsty, give him \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

II. Arguments for the peace position

 A. Christians are supposed to be “little Christs” and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him in their character

 B. God is in control. Christians can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God to direct the affairs of the world without acting un-Christ-like.

 C. Human life is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because God created humans in His image. Only God can take life.

 D. Christians are to represent Christ in the world by treating all people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in love.

 E. Christ calls believers to follow His example of servanthood. A servant places \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ above himself.

 F. In the Old Testament, the nation of Israel violently carried out justice as the special nation of \_\_\_\_\_\_ in the world. No nation today has that special position as God’s chosen country and cannot claim to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God with its actions.

III. Expressions of the peace position

 A. A daily life of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ love and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 B. Willingness to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ loss or harm rather than cause someone else loss or harm

 C. Refusal to serve in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 D. Willingness to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ society in beneficial ways

 E. Witness to the transforming \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ’s love and grace