

**Title:** Peace with God

**Passage:** Romans 5:1-2

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Summary:

Benefits of Justification:

- I. Having peace with God.
- II. Obtaining access into God's grace.
- III. Rejoicing in hope of the glory of God.

Key Truths:

- There is no neutrality - you are either serving God or serving Satan. By not serving God, then you really are at war with God.
- In Christ, we have peace with God not because of how great you are but because of how great God is.
- In Christ, we are always connected into the heavenly throne room of God.
- Substitution = Jesus took our sin as His own. Jesus died the death we deserve for our sins for us.
- Propitiation = satisfaction of God's wrath for sin. Jesus took the full wrath of our sin on the cross.
- Justification = a one-time declaration by a holy God that is only through Christ alone. Through faith, we are covered by Jesus' righteousness.

Application:

- The starting point for all spiritual blessings is through the peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ alone.
- Having been justified by faith in God, believers can know their salvation is secure forever and nothing can separate them from God's love.
- It is possible to be at peace with God while at the same time failing to experience peace in a given situation. Preach and teach and remind yourself of truths about who God is and His promises.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- How is peace with God different from peace of mind?
- Explain "substitution," "propitiation," and "justification" in your own words and what they mean to you.

- In what difficult circumstances do you need to stop grumbling and stay focused on what you have in Christ?
- What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?

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## Introduction

How do words like "justification" and "propitiation" matter for us today?

- Paul, writer of Romans, was writing to a similar audience that relates today
  - Rome, like today, is a pagan society whose morals were fluid and changing.
    - People want to go their own way and do what they feel or desire.
- The book of Romans relate to the Gospel of Jesus Christ that is relevant to our times today.
  - They explain what is wrong with the world and what God has done and what is available to those who believe.
  - What's wrong with the world today?
    - Sin. Total depravity = we are dead in our sins and cannot do anything to appease God.
      - Then what can we do?
      - The good news of Jesus Christ. Everyone who repents and believes in Jesus Christ is forgiven.
      - Substitution = Jesus took our sin as His own. Jesus died the death we deserve for our sins for us.
      - Propitiation = satisfaction of God's wrath for sin. Jesus took the full wrath of our sin on the cross.
      - Justification = a one-time declaration by a holy God that is only through Christ alone. Through faith, we are covered by Jesus' righteousness.

**Context of Passage:**

After having been justified by faith, now what?

- Saving faith is by faith alone but never comes alone.

**Passage:**

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**EXPOSITION**

**Overview**

Benefits of Justification:

- I. Having peace with God.
- II. Obtained access into His grace.
- III. Rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

*Doctrine: Assurance of Salvation*

- Has been a controversial doctrine in the past.
  - Instead of salvation being by faith alone, others contend that certain efforts must be done, which leaves salvation based on one's own work.
- Justification by Faith
  - If say you cannot be sure of your salvation, then that undermines the entire Gospel.

- Isn't God powerful enough to provide such assurance?

## **I. HAVING PEACE WITH GOD**

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Peace with God*

- Perfect peace with God through Jesus Christ.
  - Contrast: all the things of this world can never bring lasting peace.
    - You can never have true peace without having peace with God.

Truth: You are an enemy of God

- Perception: I don't need peace with God as I don't think I'm at odds with God. I'm not a violent blasphemer of God.
- Truth: There is no neutrality - you are either serving God or serving Satan.
  - By not serving God, then you really are at war with God.

Luke 11:23a

Whoever is not with me is against me

Without God's mercy, we are all doomed at death under judgment.

Hebrews 9:27

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,

Isaiah 13:9

Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it.

Psalms 7:11 (NLT)

God is an honest judge. He is angry with the wicked everyday.

Colossians 3:5-7

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.

### *Reconciliation*

- God has sent His son to take on His shoulders your sin so that you can be reconciled to God.

Colossians 1:20

and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Question: If as a Christian, what happens when you don't feel peace?

- Focus on objective truths. Be led by facts, not feelings.
- Be reminded of the truth that we have peace with God not because of how great you are but because of how great God is.

## **II. OBTAINED ACCESS INTO GOD'S GRACE**

Romans 5:2a

Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand...

### *Obtained access*

- granted access into the king's room.
  - Meaning = we are always connected into the heavenly throne room of God.

Access to God

- Previously very limited.
  - Only Moses was given personal and direct access to God. If even touched the mountain, one would be killed.
  - Tabernacle / Temple was established where only one priest could enter into the Holy of Holies once a year. Otherwise, multiple layers of separation existed.
    - Why? Visible sign of the truth that God is holy.

But now: You have access to God.

- Regardless of your background or pedigree.
- Regardless of what you have done.

In Christ, you are a son/daughter of the King.

- an awesome privilege that we can go to Him anytime.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

### **III. REJOICE IN HOPE OF THE GLORY OF GOD**

Romans 5:2b

...and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

*Hope*

- Definition: hope-filled certainty.
  - Contrast of today's perception: not wishful thinking or desire.
- How? Jesus has died and resurrected!
  - Hope overflows from the two prior: the more we appreciate the peace we have in God and the more we abide/access God, the greater and deeper is our sense of hope/certainty in Christ.

1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

### **APPLICATION**

***The starting point for all spiritual blessings is through the peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ alone.***

- we must be in a right, proper relationship with God.
- You must have peace with God to have peace of God.

***Having been justified by faith in God, believers can know their salvation is secure forever and nothing can separate them from God's love.***

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Misperception: I can separate myself from God's love.

- Who do you think you are?
  - Can you really think you can be so bad so as to live beyond God's ability and power?
- The fact you are struggling with sin means you are on the right track. Otherwise, you wouldn't care about sin. God is refining you and working in/through you.

***It is possible to be at peace with God while at the same time failing to experience peace in a given situation.***

Psalms 42:5

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation

- preach and teach and remind yourself of truths about who God is and His promises.

Philippians 4:6-7

do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:32

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

- God sent Jesus, how will He not also provide the grace and strength you need through every trial and season.

2 Corinthians 12:9

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."  
Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.