

***Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,***

The word justified in Greek is *dikaioō* and means to render righteous or such as he ought to be or to render one innocent or free. This is saying that a believer is declared free and innocent based off faith and not works.

Paul previously mentions Old Testament saints to prove right standing with God is independent of man's performance. Due to Jesus finished works and not our own, we can now have peace with God. Anytime man attempts to offer their holiness to God, they open the door to condemnation from the devil because we will never be good enough. Peace comes through knowing Jesus paid it all and I just receive. There is a constant state of rest and stability knowing our salvation is based off Jesus' obedience and not our own.

We must be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience (Heb 4:11). To rest means to cease from our own works. We must labor to stay in a position where we cease from striving and performing.

Forgiveness subtracts sin and justification adds righteousness.

***Romans 5:2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.***

The benefits of justification by faith and not works is peace with God and knowing He is not mad at us (Is 54:9-10). The word access in Greek is *prosagoge* and means admission. The way we access salvation and all of God's promises is by faith. Faith is not man making God do something, it is a response to what is already done. We should be rejoicing that there is now no condemnation for a believer (Rom 8:1) and God will never reject us. If God punished us for sin, He would be wrong to Jesus because all of our wrath fell on Jesus (Jn 12:32).

The word stand in Greek is *histēmi* and means to be kept intact. We can be secure with our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. The apostle Paul lived during the largest military regime in Rome. The sandals for the Roman soldiers' feet were composed of thick leather soles studded with iron cleats. This equipped the soldiers to be firm in their positions and also were made so that the soldiers could progress forward against their enemy and not backwards. We should have a solid foundation with the good news of being in a dispensation of God's peace extended towards us that we are not retreating and falling back into condemnation (Gal 5:1).

This verse says also that it is through whom. This is referring to Jesus and it is because of Him that we can have boldness to enter into the presence of God (Heb 4:16).

***Romans 5:3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;***

This says we glory in tribulation and people often use this verse along with James 1:3 to say God will put temptation or test in our way to produce patience. God is not the author of any temptation that we go through (James 1:13). The previous verse just said we can rejoice that God is no longer angry or separated from us because our salvation is independent of our works. Paul is now saying in the midst of tribulation we can also rejoice because God is on our side (Rom 8:31) and we already have the victory in Christ (1 Cor 15:57).

Patience is a fruit of a spirit that our born-again nature naturally produces as we abide in the vine. Pressure will reveal what is on the inside of us similar to a pipe being applied by pressure and bursting with water coming out. When trials or tribulation come, we can count it a joy because it is a time to draw out what we already have within and employ our faith by putting it to work.

God is not the one trying to take us out, He is that one that brought us in! He has brought us into His dear kingdom (Col 1:13), covenant (Heb 8:6), and all the blessings through His Son (Eph 1:3).

***Romans 5:4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope.***

Worldly hope says "I hope so". Biblical hope is a positive expectation based off a promise. Abraham against all hope (nothing in natural confirmed the promise), in hope believed (Rom 4:18).

***Romans 5:5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.***

We can glory in any tribulation because we know God loves us and Love Himself has come to live inside of us (1 Jn 4:8). Paul is about to move into how much God loved us before we could ever offer Him any of our good works.

The King James Version says, "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." This is referring to something gushing out. God has not released just a portion of His love toward us. He has not been cautious with His love; but excessive, extravagant, and beyond any human reasoning.

***Romans 5:6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.***

Paul is now saying that Jesus came to die for us while we were ungodly. God made the move before we ever got our act together. All of this is in context of proving that God does not receive us nor bless us based off performance. We were born into this world with a sin nature as we were a byproduct of Adams seed and disconnected from God.

Once Abraham aborted his own strength and ability to produce the promise, he was able to birth Issac. It is not in what we can do that makes God move, it is God giving a promise and us believing Him that we conceive.

God was the initiator in the relationship not us. A dead man cannot help himself.

**Romans 5:7 *For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.***

The word scarcely in Greek is molis and means with difficulty or not easily. The decision Jesus made to become a propitiation of sin for the entire world was not a decision that many would make.

It is very rare for a person to die in place of another, let alone a good person die for an ungodly one but this is what Christ did for us. In this chapter, it says we were without strength (powerless), ungodly, sinner, and God's enemies and this was all when He chose to die for us. No greater love than this, to lay down one's life for a friend (Jn 15:13).

**Romans 5:8 *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.***

But God should be our response to all of the enemies lies towards us. The worst position we could be in was being born into this world disconnected from God but God sent His Son, Jesus to become the barrier that stood between us and God and now we can be born again and never separated from our Father. Jesus died for us while we were still sinners. He did not move because we were good, He moved because He is good. We love Him, because he first loved us (1 Jn 4:19).

**Romans 5:9 *Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.***

We have now been justified by the blood of Jesus, not through begging or pleaded for forgiveness but through the sinless blood of Jesus. Notice this verse does not say God loves us now that we are born again the same as He did when we were not born again and disconnected from Him. He does not even love us more now that we are born again but this verse says much more. Before salvation we were children of the devil (Eph 2:2) but now we have been adopted into God's family (Eph 1:5) and there is nothing God will hold back from His children (Matthew 7:11).

**Romans 5:10 *For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.***

The Greek word for enemies is echthros and means hated. When we hated God, He stepped to us. The gospel truly is too good to be true news.

Paul is expressing the same point and emphasizing salvation based off God's grace.

**Romans 5:11 *And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.***

Not only are we at peace with God and did God love us while we were His enemies but Jesus came down to our level so that we could go up to His.

The word reconciliation is also atonement and the Greek word is katallage and means exchanges. Calvary is called the Great Exchange because Jesus became sin on the cross so that we could be righteous on this earth. Through right standing with God, all authority and dominion is released back to God's children.

**Romans 5:12 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned***

Paul is about to make some radical statement that many believers do not have a solid foundation in. Through Adams disobedience he became separated from God and had a sin nature thus everyone born into this natural world is a byproduct of Abraham and to have a fallen nature. The only way to be right with God is to become born again through accepting Jesus (Jn 3:3).

Paul is using this to reveal that it is not sin that makes man a sinner but it is man's sin nature that makes him sin. We inherit our sin nature when we are born. Ezekiel 11:19 tells us the problem with man is not his actions but his nature.

**Romans 5:13 *For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.***

The first 2,000 years was a period of grace that man was under. God did not impute man's sins to him the first 2,000 years but because sin had got so rampant, God had to enforce the Mosaic Law to have a virgin to carry the Seed.

**Romans 5:14 *Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.***

If God was not imputed sin, then why was death reigning? The impacts of sin go beyond God's judgement but are an open doorway to the enemy. The world was impacted by Adam's transgression and although God was not the one enforcing sins judgment, sin was having its own effects on mankind due to the seed of Adam. A seed always produces after its own kind and every seed from Adam to Moses was that of a fallen nature.

**Romans 5:15** *But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.*

The word offense in Greek is *paraptōma* and means a lapse or deviation from truth and uprightness. All were born under sin (Gal 3:22).

Adams disobedience unleashed sin and all its consequences but through Jesus' obedience, He released life with all its benefits.

**Romans 5:16** *And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.*

Paul states five times in this chapter alone that if we are going to believe we were born into this world with a sin nature, we need to believe when we get born again; we now have a righteous nature. We became a sinner by being born and we become righteous by becoming born again (Jn 3:3).

**Romans 5:17** *For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.*

Many Christians are not aware of what took place at Calvary or the Great Exchange. Our sins are not the problem, the sin nature we inherited was. We can totally try to avoid sin and not sin but the root cause would still be there. In order to stop a dog from barking you do not focus on the barking. He is a dog and his nature is one to bark so the only way to stop the barking is to kill the dog.

Likewise, we sin because we were born with a sin nature and the only way to deal with sin is to deal with the sin nature that caused the sin. Jesus became sin on the cross and took our sin nature and gave us a new heart and new spirit that is righteous and identical to God (Ez 36:27).

We should be reigning in life not allowing it to reign over us. Reigning in life comes through revelation of Jesus' finished works on the cross for us.

**Romans 5:18** *Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.*

Paul is expounding on judgment coming on man because of Adam, but justification coming on man because of Jesus. If you have received Jesus, you are just as if you have never sinner in the eyes of God (Eph 1:4 *New Living Translation*).

**Romans 5:19** *For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.*

This verse says we were made sinners. Sinning (what you do) does not make us sinners (who you are). We inherited a sin or fallen nature from Adam but when we get born again, we are made righteous. Just as sinning does not make us a sinner, no amount of good works makes us righteous.

No amount of good works can change man's sin nature. The only way the sin nature can change is by us accepting Jesus. Likewise, no amount of bad works can make us unrighteous. Man is made righteous by the obedience of One man not our own obedience. We are not the One man.

We were made righteous; we do not earn righteousness by our good acts. If we see we were imputed righteousness the moment we got born again, our actions will line up with our new nature (2 Cor 5:21, Eph 4:24). Right living comes from right believing.

**Romans 5:20** *Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more,*

The word abound in this verse means to increase. The strength of sin is the law (1 Cor 15:56). Anytime a person is commanded not to do something, it will compel them to do it more. Once the law came, it exposed the sin nature and that man apart from Jesus does not have the power or ability to break the flesh (Rom 7:14-25).

**Romans 5:21** *so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Grace reigns through righteousness. Now that we are in right standing with God, He can legally bless us with all that we need because justice for the payment of sin has been satisfied (Is 53:11). Sin stood between us and God and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. Jesus shed His blood for us, we are now forgiven and are in right standing with God and He can now legally bless us with everything we need.