

ROMANS 5:1-11

A QUICK REVIEW FROM OUR LAST LESSON:

1. In Romans (Chapters 1-3), we saw the need for our salvation's justification.
2. In Romans 3:24-28, we were shown the way to being justified - by grace through faith in Christ and His finished work at the cross.
3. Romans Chapter 4 gave us an illustration of justification, using Abraham and David as examples.

ROMANS 5

*Paul continues to give the details of the Gospel of Grace and now shows us what the benefits are of justification in the believer's life.

**The theme of this chapter is the "eternal security of the believer" that we receive. Paul gives us these benefits in the first eleven verses of Chapter 5 (what Christ has done for us).

Romans 5:1 - Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

1. The first benefit we receive is that we have peace in our life. Being justified by faith is peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ. The war is over!

Romans 5:10 - For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

2. The barrier of sin has been removed. The wrath and justice of God has been satisfied. Remember what Romans 1:18 says, *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*

Ephesians 2:2-3 - Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

3. "But now", we have "peace" because Christ made a complete/total payment of our sin debt. We have been justified.

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

1. This is the second benefit we receive. Now we enjoy access to God through grace. We have a divine favor in our standing with God.
2. That word "access" means "a bringing in" or "an introduction". Nothing can bar our access to God now in this Dispensation of Grace period. Whereas, in "time past", Israel could get in God's presence only one time a year at the temple in Jerusalem and the rest had no access.

3. We do not have to go to a temple to be in God's presence. As a believer, we are the temple which God resides in and this is an eternal relationship.

I Corinthians 6:19 - What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

4. As if that were not enough, we also rejoice in the hope of the glory of God in the last part of this verse. This means that we joyfully look forward to the time when we will see the splendor of God and be with Him in glory.

II Corinthians 3:18 - But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Romans 5:3 - And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

1. The third benefit we receive with our justification is our patience. Paul is saying how we are to deal with tribulations that come our way in life. We all know something about trouble that comes in our life.
2. One of the byproducts of tribulation is that it produces a perseverance in us. Perseverance is having patience within you.
3. God develops patience in the believer by allowing tribulations in life. Being now justified, you rethink how you live your life. You develop patience, so you can now handle troubles that come at you.
4. There is the saying: "Patience is peace under pressure." These troubles and tribulations should make us stronger by our faith in Christ.

James 1:2-3 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; James 1:3 Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

5. This means, when we walk by faith, it develops our character by trusting God and His Word. We could never develop patience if our lives were trouble free.

Romans 5:4 - And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

1. Patience, when handled correctly, builds experience and it is a real sign of spiritual maturity developing in us.
2. Experience is that ability to try and prove something. Experience becomes the best teacher in handling a problem in anything you do. As a Christian, we can handle problems better because we become experienced in handling them God's way - biblically.
3. Paul mentions "hope" as the last word of this verse. Hope is the confidence you have that better things are to come. We know God is working in our lives developing our character and this gives us confidence that, having begun a good work in us - He will see it through to completion.

Philippians 1:6 - Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

Romans 5:5 - 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.

1. The fourth benefit we receive is in our growth in God.

*The hope of our salvation will never be put to shame. We will never be disappointed, or find that we have rested on a false confidence.

2. How can we be so sure? The answer is in the second part of this verse - "*because the love of God is shed-abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*"

*Who we are and what we have in Christ has revealed God's agape love for us and in us. "Agape love" is a mental attitude of value and esteem. It is a mental attitude of love by the Holy Spirit living inside you, a hope that the world does not have.

3. It is a love of God that guarantees our eternal security. So when we face life's troubles, we have what is written in II Corinthians 1:4 - *Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.*

Romans 5:6-8 - For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. Rom. 5:7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. Rom. 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

1. This brings us to the fifth benefit of our justification: We are eternally secure in Christ. Paul explains what we were (without strength, ungodly, sinners) when Christ died for us, because we are unable to save ourselves.
2. In verse 6, it says we were without strength, ungodly, and actually an enemy against Christ. But even then, Christ loved us enough to die for us! Christ came down from heaven not to die just for the good men, but for the ungodly too.
3. As sinners, we were condemned totally and completely, having no hope and being alienated from the life of God. Again in verse 8, you see God's love is "unconditional".

Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

4. If anybody knew this best, it was Paul, when he knew that he was the chief of sinners.

I Timothy 1:15 - This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

*We were not even His friends - we were His enemies, but He died for us!

Romans 5:9 - Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

1. Here, we see a new set of conditions exist. We are no longer considered to be guilty sinners. By the sacrifice of Jesus Christ's blood at Calvary, we have been counted righteous by God.

Ephesians 1:7 - In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Ephesians 2:13 - But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

2. The last part of verse 9 says, "we shall be saved from wrath through him."

*Since we have been saved, no wrath of God will come down upon us. We do not stand in any jeopardy of wrath because we have already been saved and are safe in God's arms.

3. Verses 6 through 10 show the three stages of man's sinfulness and God's love demonstrated to us.

*In verse 6, it says we were helpless - without strength because we were without God by our sin nature.

*In verse 8, it says we are sinners - we sin because we are sinners. But, Christ died for us and paid that sin debt.

*In verse 10, it says we are enemies - that attitude we have of sin. But now, we have been reconciled by God's grace.

4. Paul is also alluding to the Pre-Tribulation - the Rapture. Being saved from God's wrath is true for the wrath to come. But also, it seems to be speaking of a somewhat different type of "saved" - being saved by God, by getting us off this earth before this terrible event happens (the Tribulation) - to be raptured up!

Romans 5:10 - For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

1. Think back to what we were and what we are now. Before we knew Christ, we were His enemies. But now, because we have believed in the D.B.R. of Christ, we are reconciled to God through Christ's sacrifice.
2. We were hostile to the Lord and felt no need to be reconciled. God intervened in a display of pure grace. God's Son removed the hostility to God (our sins), and by having faith in Christ, we have been reconciled to God.
3. If Christ's death had such power to save us, then how much more will His life have power to keep us eternally secure. Our eternal security is bound up in His life. For me to lose my salvation, then the risen Lord Jesus would have to die totally.

Romans 6:9-10 - Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. Rom. 6:10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

4. We have been both justified and reconciled by Christ's work at the Cross. We are justified by His blood and reconciled by Christ's death.

Romans 5:11 - And not only *so*, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

1. That word "atonement" means to be in one accord, which is the meaning of reconciliation. We are now in agreement with God.

2. We come to our sixth benefit of justification - our rejoicing in God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Before we were saved, we found our so-called joys elsewhere. But now, we have a different mindset where Jesus Christ has produced this marvelous change in us and our joy comes to us through Him.

3. The seventh benefit that we enjoy by being justified is found in the last part of this verse 11. We have received the reconciliation from God. Reconciliation refers to the establishment of harmony between God and man through the sacrificial work of our Savior.
4. By putting away sin, which had caused the alienation, the Lord Jesus restored those who believe in Him. Now we can have a state of harmony with God.
5. Remember, it was man who needed it because he was at enmity with God. But, God always show us His grace!