

FROM ENEMIES TO BELOVED: SECURE IN CHRIST

Romans 5:8–11

I. The Demonstration of Love: God's INITIATIVE

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

God demonstrates His love by sending Christ to die for us while we were sinners—not because we earned or deserved it.

This love isn't based on our performance or track record; rather, it flows from God's very nature.

The radical nature of this sacrifice becomes clear when we consider what human love typically looks like: people rarely die even for a righteous person, and only occasionally for someone genuinely good.

Yet God acted differently entirely, prioritizing those who were spiritually helpless and morally bankrupt.

II. The Certainty of Salvation: God's PROMISE

9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. 10 For if while 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.

A. Paul uses an a fortiori argument (from the greater to the lesser) to provide assurance for the believer.

1. Justified by His Blood (v. 9): If God did the "hard" thing by justifying us (enemies) through Christ's death, He will surely do the "easier" thing by saving us from final wrath.
2. Saved by His Life (v. 10): Reconciliation was achieved through His death; our final preservation is guaranteed by His resurrected life.

B. The Certainty of our salvation by faith is seen in the three Tenses of our salvation: **Past, Present and Future.**

1. **Romans 5:9a** – *Much more then, having now been justified by His blood...*
The PAST tense of our salvation is **JUSTIFICATION**.
The moment we believed, we were saved from sin's penalty thru Christ's sacrificial death for us.
2. **Romans 5:9b** – ...*we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.*
The FUTURE tense of our salvation is **GLORIFICATION**. We will be saved from sin's presence when we go to Jesus!
1 Corinthians 15:50-57, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 1 John 3:2
3. **Romans 5:10** – Between justification & glorification is **SANCTIFICATION**, salvation's PRESENT tense.

For if while 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. – Romans 5:10

Therefore, He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. – Hebrews 7:25

- a. In sanctification, we are being saved in the present tense from sin's **POWER** in our lives through Christ's life.

For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. – 1 Corinthians 1:18

- b. Christ in us is God's "secret" for holy living.

"to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." – Colossians 1:27

- c. Christ in you makes it possible to truly experience an abundant life.

"When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory." Col. 3:4

He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.' – John 7:38

Having been justified by Christ's blood & reconciled through His death, believers are assured of salvation from God's wrath and will be saved through His life.

Illustration: A parent who sacrifices everything to rescue a drowning child won't abandon that child on the shore. The greatest act of love guarantees the smaller acts of care that follow.

III. The Response of Joy: God's TRANSFORMATION

11 And not only this, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Believers boast in God through Christ, having received reconciliation.

This isn't arrogant boasting but rather the overflow of a transformed heart.

The believer now stands in a unique relationship with God, rooted in the conviction that a God willing to give His Son will surely continue working in us.

The passage moves from doctrine to doxology—from understanding what God has done to celebrating who He is.

The ultimate goal of the Gospel is not just escaping Hell but finding total **SATISFACTION** in God.

- Boasting/Exulting: We don't just "survive" trials; we confidently celebrate what God has done.
- The Prize: The highest prize of the Gospel is **God Himself**—restored fellowship and unquenchable joy.

CONCLUSION:

If you are already a believer, bask in the peace of this reconciliation. If you have never received this love, the "reconciliation is now received" for anyone who turns to Christ in faith.