

THE GRACE OF GOD | “Rejoice in the Blessings of Justification”

Romans 5:1-5

Ken Lewis, Senior Pastor

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What do you think is the greatest need of humanity?

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Justification: Is a declarative act of God were He pronounces a guilty sinner as righteous.

The Blessings of Justification:

Romans 4:6–8 just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: 7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; 8 blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

1. We have peace with God (5:1).

> **Peace with God means that the state of hostility between God and us is permanently over (v. 1b).**

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

> **Peace with God only comes through the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Romans 3:23–24 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

2. We have access to God (5:2a).

Ephesians 2:18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

3. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God (5:2b).

> **Those who scorned God’s glory (Rom. 1:21–23) and have fallen short of it (3:23) are now promised a future share in it.**

4. We rejoice in our sufferings (5:3-4).

James 1:2–4 2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

> **We have a way of living that is both sobering and satisfying (vv. 3-4).**

(1) It is sobering that trusting in Christ brings suffering (v. 3a).

Romans 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

(2) It is satisfying that suffering ultimately produces hope (vv. 3b-4).

- Suffering produces endurance (v. 3b)
- Perseverance produces character (v. 4a)
- Character produces hope (v. 4b)

Romans 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

> **We have a Sovereign God who uses suffering for our good and his glory.**

Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

- (1) Suffering refines us.
- (2) Suffering reveals rival sources of confidence and hope.
- (3) Suffering exposes our false foundations.

If you face suffering with a mindset of justification by works, the suffering will break you, not make you. When people functionally seek salvation by works and bad stuff happens they immediately feel punished for their sins because they have not lived up to their man-made standard.

> **We know hope will not disappoint us because God has flooded our hearts with his love (v. 5).**