

L13: The Assurance of Christ - Romans 5:1-21

Introduction:

- The Redemption in Christ / The Faith of Jesus Christ
- By Grace through Faith

Preview:

- Much Assurance
 - Sure
- Love of God shed abroad

Sermon:

Romans 4:16

2 Timothy 2:19

1 Thessalonians 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

- **"and in much assurance"**
 - Not just "some" assurance, but "much" assurance
- **"assurance"** - firm persuasion; full confidence or trust; certain expectation
 - Assurance doesn't determine "justification", or "doubt" doesn't indicate a lack of "justification"
 - "Justification" resulted from a faith response to God's redemption in Christ.
 - Story of Smith and Brown
 - Land of Goshen
 - Night of Passover
 - Conversation
 - Smith - worried about his firstborn, only one child, but Brown has three
 - Put the blood on the lintel and door posts
 - Brown - not worried, bring it on attitude, I trust in the promises of God
 - Put the blood on the lintel and door posts
 - Question, which one lost his son
 - Death doesn't passover them, by the ground of the intensity of their faith, but on the ground of the blood of the Lamb.
 - Not the intensity of our faith that saves, but the object of our faith
- Assurance is produced by:
 - Deeper understanding of the gospel
 - The doctrine of the sealing
 - The doctrine of the earnest expectation

- **Romans 5:1-2**
 - We have peace with God - justified
 - Access by faith into this grace - initial provision for walk
 - Rejoice in hope of the glory of God - God's purpose with us

- **Romans 5:3-5**
 - Glory in tribulations - tribulations not against our justification
 - Tribulation works patience; patience works experience; and experience works hope
 - Hope makes not ashamed

 - Hope is the expectation of a future event
 - The grounds of the expectation

- **Romans 5:5-11**
 - **:5 - love of God shed abroad (not poured out) produces particular effect**
 - Dirt, pitcher of water, reception of the ground when the water hits and the dirt
 - Pushes it back, produces an identifiable identification of cleansing in contrast to before it was shed abroad.
 - The ground of its shedding (our hearts)

 - **:6-9 - 1st persuasion of much assurance**
 - God's rich, great, peculiar love
 - Without strength Christ died for the ungodly
 - The kind of love
 - Humanly speaking if someone were to die for another
 1. Do it for a righteous man (scarce)
 2. Do it for a good man (dare)
 - God commends His love toward us while we were yet sinners
 - Much more
 - Now justified - we shall be saved from wrath

 - **:10 - 2nd persuasion of much assurance**
 - When we were enemies - we were reconciled to God by death of Christ
 - Much more
 - Being reconciled - we shall be saved by His life

 - **:11 - 3rd persuasion of much assurance**
 - Received the atonement (at-one-ment)
 - At one in Christ - no longer at one in Adam

 - **:12-21 - The Doctrine of the atonement**
 - **:12 - Setting it up**
 - As by one man sin entered the world, and death by sin (one man provision)
 - So death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (result of one man provision)

 - Inherited what Adam did

 - **(:13-14) - Proof of :12**
 - Prior to the law sin was in the world, but not imputed when there is no law

- God wasn't having men die because of their sins from Adam to Moses
- Nevertheless death reigned
 - God was proving men die because of what they inherit from Adam
- **:15 - 1st Inequality**
 - The offence (what Adam produced in one man status)
 - The free gift (what Christ produced in one man status)
 - Equality by definition of "one man", but not in what they produced
 - Offence of one (Adam) many be dead (all beside Christ)
 - Much more the grace of God
 - Gift by grace hath abounded unto many (all beside Christ)
- **:16 - 2nd Inequality**
 - Not as by one that sinned, so is the gift
 - The judgment was by one to condemnation
 - One man, one offence to condemnation (eternal)
 - The free gift is of many offences unto justification
 - One man, free gift, many offences unto justification (Adam's and yours)
 - The judgment of God's Justice in giving us "the free gift" unto justification is actually of GREATER ENFORCING nature and POWER than the judgment of His Justice that established our former condemnation in Adam.
 - Adam's 'offence' status would have the potential to accumulate 'sins', in which 'the one who is to come', would not only have to deal with the 'offence' status, but the accumulation of 'sins'.
 - ***We don't need to think of a ratio or percentage, it is simply the acknowledging of the fact that: if the strength of condemnation exists on the basis of God's Justice responding to just ONE sin, how much more is the STRENGTH of JUSTIFICATION when it has been produced on the basis of God's Justice responding to 'many offences'?***
 - **Ex.** If there were 1,000 offences that the Justice of God responded to in producing the 'at-one' status, then the POWER of LIFE to reign over the ones in that 'at-one' status is 1,000 times greater than the power of death to reign over the ones who are 'at-odds' with God.
- **:17 - The reigning in life is greater than death's reign**
 - Foundation of rejoicing in hope of the glory of God
 - Resurrection
 - 1 Corinthians 15 - new body
 - Eternal weight of glory
- **1 Corinthians 15:55-58**
- **Sealed/Earnest**

- 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, 5:5
 - Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30
 - Romans 8:15-23 (earnest expectation)
 - Philippians 1:20-21, 23
- **Earnest** - First fruits; that which is in advance, and gives promise of something to come.

Conclusion:

- **Clear Gospel**
- **Doctrines of Assurance**