

Timeless Truth



ROMANS: CHAPTER FIVE

WEEK FIVE | JUNE DIXON

TIMELESS TEACHING |

With Romans Chapter 5 we begin a new section of the book. Paul describes what we have gained in being justified by faith. It is true that we have escaped the wrath of God, but being righteous before God means so much more than just not being punished for our sin.

I. THE BLESSINGS OF JUSTIFICATION

Our justification comes with blessings. By studying these blessings, we can realize just how wonderful it is to be a Christian and to know that we are forever assured of eternity with him. So let's look at the blessings that we have as Christians.

1. Verses 1 & 2--We have peace with God. Paul does not mean by this that we feel peaceful, that we experience no anxiety. He means that we are right with God and have permanent peace with Him from now through eternity. Nothing can separate us from his love.

So what does God's peace look like in our daily busy, stressful lives? We must be careful to differentiate the peace with God which we have and the peace of God which is the daily experience of calm and confidence in God's control.

We have to cultivate the peace of God. Paul gives us a great formula in Phil. 4:6&7

- Worry about nothing—
- Pray about everything—
- Tell God what you need—
- Thank him for all he has done.—

This is not about anxious effort, but about continually yielding to God's spirit and redirecting our hearts to Him. Remember the mantra, we must be continually in His word, putting on that belt of truth as part of our armor and constantly in prayerful conversation with Him.

Paul also understood that his sufferings were a part of God's refining process. Peace comes to us too, when we interpret trials through the lens of God's purpose. Paul modeled peace through

- Prayer. He prayed without ceasing
- Worship. He sang Hymns in Prison
- Gratitude. He fixed his thoughts on what is true, noble, pure and lovely.
- Community. Paul learned from and encouraged other believers

So Paul shows us that peace is not the absence of stress, but the presence of Christ in stress.

2. Our second blessing is Patience or Endurance—the ability to keep going when we feel like stopping. These words are closely linked in the Bible. In fact, John speaks of patient endurance in Revelation 1:9 as a combined virtue.

Day by day we pray that God will transform us into the image of his Son so that when we stand before him, God sees Christ in us. Problems help us develop patience or endurance, character, and hope. We have a problem and we take it to God asking him to help us through it.

Each time we endure, we develop strength of character. Character is who we are! Christians of character choose to keep doing the right things on a consistent basis.

Character produces hope. The confidence that God will deliver what He says, what He has promised, and that we will spend eternity with him and it will be perfect. Ladies, suffering is NOT the enemy of hope—it is the pathway God uses to strengthen it.

3. Now in vv. 5-11 we see our third blessing: we have the Joy that comes with the peace of God KNOWING that we will spend eternity with Him.

But how can we rejoice? That's hard. But, it is possible to look at our problems and see them for what they are—a part of God's refining process. It doesn't mean we are happy, but that we see that God has a plan.

- We can have joy even in our trials and hardships.
- We can rejoice in Christ's sacrifice (vv. 6-8).
- We rejoice in the reconciliation, a new friendship with God (vv 9-11).

4. We can rejoice in God's love through His Spirit in verse 5. This is also our 4th blessing. He POURS love into us. Romans 8:16 tells us "For his spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children." God Himself confirms His love in our hearts.

The Holy Spirit pours that love into our hearts, giving us an inner assurance that God is for us and will finish his plan. Before our salvation, God showed His love 1st. He took the initiative by sending his only Son to die for us, and now we belong to Him.

II. THE BASIS OF JUSTIFICATION

In the second part of this chapter Paul goes back and gives us the foundation as to why we needed justification with God. Paul begins by comparing the work of Adam (sinful mankind) with the work of Christ, on behalf of sinful humanity.

A. The Ruin of Mankind (vv 12-14)—The Fall

The first man, Adam, was created by God and placed in the garden of Eden with only one restriction _____.

First, God slaughtered an animal (the first blood sacrifice)

More than that, though, Adam and Eve were sent away from God and from the garden and began to die physically.

Even worse, Adam and Eve passed on their sin to their offspring. Sin led to death.

In verse 13, Paul answers a question: How could there be sin before the law of Moses existed? Paul did not indicate there was no actual sin, but only that one cannot literally "break" a law unless there is one. It's not that sin did not exist before the law of Moses. Of course it did. Paul says that specific sin was not counted against specific people before the law. It was not a transgression in the sense of breaking the written words of the law; it was simply sinful humanity expressing its sinful nature: self-serving, hurtful, deceptive, and immoral.

Adam's sin was different from the sin of all others who lived after him until the time of Moses and the law. God did give Adam a direct command.

We are reminded that sin isn't just about individual mistakes—our condition is universal, inherited from Adam. We recognize that we live in a world broken by sin—violence,

selfishness, addictions, injustice—just look around. So we should not be surprised by human failure and we should be driven to God for His help and His mercy. Are we?

B. The Rescue of Mankind (15-19)

In the previous verse (14), Paul described Adam as a "type" of Christ. This doesn't mean that Adam had Christ-like qualities, but that they were alike in that their choices affected many, many people. One single action by Adam brought death to all who came after him. Now Paul says that the free gift, Jesus' choice to die for our sins, is not like Adam's sin. The free gift brings salvation from death and rescue from the wrath of God—His judgment on sin.

Paul summarizes in 18 and 19 the greatness of our rescue--the ideas he has been discussing since the beginning of this section in verse 12, One trespass, one sin, led to the condemnation of all men. Because all sinned, all faced God's judgment and the same fate: condemnation.

By contrast, though, one "act of righteousness" leads to the opportunity for justification for every person in the world. This act of righteousness was Jesus' death on the cross to pay for human sin. Those who, by faith, receive this free gift of God's grace are declared righteous by God. They are justified. This is the case Paul has been making throughout Romans.

I KNOW that the power of Christ's grace is greater than the power of sin. No matter my past, God's gift is greater than all my sin so when I am weighed down by my sin, "Help me Lord remember this and come to You."

C. The Reign of Mankind (20-21)

So what happened when God gave the law to Moses? How did that change this relationship between human sin and God? It made everything much, much worse, exactly as God intended. Once God gave actual commands about what to do and what not to do in this life, human beings moved from simply being sinners by nature to becoming actual lawbreakers. The existence of God's commands criminalized their sin—our sin—at a new level. Now we were all living in blatant, open rebellion. In that sense, sin increased.

Paul follows that with another extraordinary statement, however. As human sin increased, God's grace abounded even more. This is still astounding to us. God's grace—giving good

to us when we have earned bad—cannot be overwhelmed by our own sinfulness. The more we sin, the more grace God gives.

However, Paul has just written that as sin increases, God's grace increases even more. In other words, sin cannot grow past God's capacity to give good to those who deserve His angry judgment instead. Paul concludes that God's grace is the greater ruler. It reigns over sin and death. How? He declares righteous all of us sinners who, by faith, receive his grace-gift of Jesus' death for our sin on the cross.

WEEK FIVE

ROMANS: CHAPTER FIVE

BUT GOD SHOWED HIS GREAT LOVE FOR
US BY SENDING CHRIST TO DIE FOR US
WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS.

ROMANS 5:8 NLT

DAY ONE

ROMANS 5:1-2 | Peace with God



TIMELESS TRUTH |

THEREFORE, SINCE WE HAVE BEEN MADE RIGHT IN
GOD'S SIGHT BY FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD
BECAUSE OF WHAT JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD HAS DONE
FOR US.

ROMANS 5:1 NLT

Read Romans 5:1-2

Having peace with God and being able to stand in a permanent position of grace (an undeserved privilege) are truths that echo all through the Bible: Isaiah foretold it, Jesus promised it, Paul and Peter explained it, and Hebrews invites us to boldly live it.

1. What can we learn of God's peace in the following verses?

Isaiah 54:9-10

John 14:27 and 16:33

Acts 10:36

1 Peter 2:24

To recap: Using these verses, what does it mean to have peace with God?

2. Read Colossians 1:19-20. Of what are we reminded in these verses about the blood on the cross?

We stand in undeserved privilege (Grace). We are firmly established in God's favor, not because of works but because of Christ. Grace is not a passing experience, but a secure position.

Ephesians 2:8-9 teaches us that salvation is a _____, not earned.

Hebrews 4:16 invites us to approach God _____ to receive more grace.

1 Peter 5:12 urges us to _____ in this grace.

3. From the lecture, what formula can we use to gain the peace of God?

4. Why does the peace of God have to be cultivated?

PRAYER MOMENT |

In your prayer time today thank the Lord that we now live in peace with Him because of Jesus and what He did for us on the cross. Ask Him to help you rest in His love today and walk with joy in His grace.

DAILY REMINDER |

As we live this day, we are be reminded that we live today in peace with God through Jesus Christ.

FURTHER READING |

Isaiah 54:9-10 –

John 14:27 –

Philippians 4:6-7 –

Colossians 1:19-22 –

Ephesians 2:14 –

Ephesians 2:8-9 –

Hebrews 4:16 –

1 Peter 5:12b –

“What a privilege God has given to us—one that angels don’t have, one that we will not have in the world to come—to bring souls to Jesus Christ.”

Adrian Rogers

DAY TWO

ROMANS 5:3-5 | Hope in Suffering



TIMELESS TRUTH |

WE CAN REJOICE, TOO, WHEN WE RUN INTO PROBLEMS AND TRIALS, FOR WE KNOW THAT THEY HELP US DEVELOP ENDURANCE. . . .AND THIS HOPE WILL NOT LEAD TO DISAPPOINTMENT. FOR WE KNOW HOW DEARLY GOD LOVES US.

ROMANS 5:3 & 5A NLT

Read Romans 5:3-5

In verse 3, Paul points to a benefit of salvation we experience immediately. For those in Christ, our suffering matters. It counts for something. For those who die without Christ, suffering is merely suffering. It is pain and loss and frustration, resulting in no particular benefit, and coming to no resolution. For those in Christ, however, suffering has a point, since we're destined for something higher. It accomplishes great good in us, in fact, and produces endurance which itself produces other powerful, positive characteristics in us.

1. Why can Christians rejoice in suffering?

2. What make a Christian's hope different from the hope the world has?

Paul then adds that this battle-tested faith of endurance produces in Christians the quality of character. Christians of character choose to keep doing the right things on a consistent basis. The pattern is that suffering causes us to trust God on a deeper level, and the more we trust God, the most likely we are to consistently make right choices. We become Christians of proven character. Character, too, produces a new quality in us: hope. In the context of Romans and the New Testament, "hope" is confidence that God will deliver what He promised. Hope implies some level of certainty that we will receive God's good forever. Hope defines the "bottom line" for a Christian's thoughts and emotions. No matter what comes along, we are fully convinced that our ultimate end will be sharing in the glories of God forever. When Paul uses the word "hope" in Romans, it's important to understand the term. In this context, he's not talking about something that might happen, something like, "I hope I get a present for my birthday." Instead, "hope" means looking forward with expectation to something, even though we can't see it, yet.

3. Why are we as Christians able to rejoice in problems and trials?

4. What assurance are we given that our hope will not disappoint us?

5. How does the Holy Spirit help us when we are suffering?

PRAYER MOMENT |

In your prayer time today we absolutely have to thank Him that He saved us while we were still lost sinners. We did NOTHING to earn salvation. Thank Him for the suffering that will strengthen our character and strengthen our hope in the Lord.

DAILY REMINDER |

As we live this day, we are to be reminded that Christ came at just the right time. Our trials shape us as we grow into persons who know that our hope will not fail us.

FURTHER READING |

James 1:2-4 – Testing produces endurance and maturity.

1 Peter 1:6-7 – Trials refine faith like gold.

2 Corinthians 4: -- Temporary troubles prepare eternal glory.

Hebrews 12:1-2 – Jesus endured the cross for the joy set before Him

"Never think that an event is unimportant or not part of God's Grand Plan. He wastes no time in Your life."

Charles Swindoll

DAY THREE

ROMANS 5:6-11 | Saved From Wrath



TIMELESS TRUTH |

BUT GOD SHOWED HIS GREAT LOVE FOR US BY SENDING
CHRIST TO DIE FOR US WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS.

ROMANS 5:8 NLT

Read Romans 5:6-8

Verse 6 tells us that Christ came at just the right time. He arrived, lived, died, and was resurrected at the moment in history when His action would accomplish the most good for God's plan. His timing was motivated by His love for all of us godless people.

Here, Paul describes a human perspective of sacrificing one's life for the sake of others. It's no small thing to suffer pain and death, intentionally and voluntarily, for the sake of someone else. Paul makes a common-sense point that some people, maybe, would be willing to give our lives for the sake of some other good and righteous person, though even that is rare. Paul's point is that we'd be hesitant to die for the sake of someone we found morally lacking.

Paul's point here is that we don't have to take God's word alone that He loves us. We can look at the evidence: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.--He died in our place. Because of our sin, we deserved to suffer God's angry judgment. We deserved death. Christ took that judgment for our sin on Himself on the cross. He suffered and died in our place. Paul insists that we should take that act as evidence of God's great love for us, especially since God went first. Jesus died in our place, before we knew we would want Him to do that. He died for us before we'd ever done anything to deserve that love. God proved His love for us. That makes Him worth trusting.

1. When did Christ die for us?

2. What does the cross reveal about God's love?

3. Notice three truths:

a. What condition were we in before the cross? How were we helpless?

b. What is the significance of God's timing?

c. How is God's love contrasted with human love?

Read Romans 5:9-11

Paul begins by saying that we have now been justified by Christ's blood. To be "justified" in God's eyes means to be "declared righteous," or to be made right with God. This is important, since earlier verses have made it clear that we are not, actually "righteous" people. Based on our actions and attitudes, we are not "good." In order to be reconciled to God, we need to be forgiven, and "declared" as righteous; this is what it means to be justified. Those who are justified in God's eyes, through faith in what Christ has done, will certainly never suffer God's wrath for our sin.

When were we ever friends with God? In the Garden! Verse 9 emphasized the legal standing of those who trust in Christ: We have been justified, and we will not experience God's judgment. This verse shifts to focus on our personal relationship with God. Christ's death in our place for our sin made it possible for us to enter into a real and personal relationship, something not possible without Christ. Before we came to this point, God considered us enemies due to our rebellious sin. Now He considers us His beloved children.

Reconciliation describes what happens between two people formerly separated by a dispute, when that dispute is resolved and they are able to come back together. God is the one who had the dispute with us, because of our sin. Christ's death and resurrection satisfied God's demands to make things right between us, and, through our faith alone, the dispute is ended.

4. What does it mean to be “made right in God’s sight?”

5. How are we saved through the “life of His Son”?

6. What does reconciliation teach us about God’s character?

PRAYER MOMENT |

In your prayer time today thank the Lord that He died for us when we were at our worst. We pray that we never doubt His love, but live each day in gratitude. Ask that He fill us with joy and confidence because we have no condemnation.

DAILY REMINDER |

As I live this day, remember that God loved us at our worst—His love never changes and that we are now God’s friends, secure in His salvation.

FURTHER READING |

Jesus died for the ungodly:

John 3:16

Ephesians 2:4-5

Titus 3:4-7

1 John 4:9-10

We are saved from Wrath:

John 5:24

John 15:13-15

1 Thess. 1:9-10

2 Cor. 5:17-21

*"I believe in Christ like I believe in the sun—
not because I can see it, but because by it I can
see everything else."*

C. S. Lewis

DAY FOUR

ROMANS 5:12-17 | The Problem Through Adam



TIMELESS TRUTH |

WHEN ADAM SINNED, SIN ENTERED THE WORLD. ADAM'S SIN BROUGHT DEATH, SO DEATH SPREAD TO EVERYONE, FOR EVERYONE SINNED.

ROMANS 5:12 NLT

Read Romans 5:12

Let's change our focus for a bit. Paul is explaining to us how sin and death entered the human story. Adam made a choice to disobey God and opened a floodgate of sin that spread to all mankind. Sin wasn't just an act—it became a condition, a spiritual infection passed on to every person. One act of rebellion became a spiritual disease that infected all of humanity. We have inherited not only Adam's sinful nature but also his separation from God.

1. Because of sin every person is born _____ from God—unable to live in perfect obedience or righteousness on our own.
2. How did sin enter the world? _____
3. How does recognizing that sin began with Adam help you understand your own struggle with sin today?

4. In what ways have you seen the effects of Adam's fall—in yourself, your family, or the world around you?

Read Romans 5:13-14

God gives us a hint of hope. The focus here, however, is not just on the fall but on the contrast between Adam's failure and Christ's gift (the ruin and the rescue!).

5. What is the big difference between Adam's sin and the sin of everyone else before the time of Moses?

6. We described Adam as a "type of Christ" in the lecture. What did that mean?

Read Romans 5:15-17

Paul now highlights a beautiful truth: "There is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift." Adam's trespass unleashed judgment and death. But God's grace through Christ overflows. Grace doesn't simply erase sin—it reigns in its place. Although the power of sin is great, the power of grace is so much greater—infininitely so!

7. What is the great difference between Christ and Adam?

8. How might your life look different if you truly lived as someone under the rule of Grace?

9. What is the gift of righteousness and how do we receive this gift?

PRAYER MOMENT |

In your prayer time today confess the sin that touches every part of our lives. Then, thank the Lord that His grace through Jesus is greater than our own failures. Pray that He will help you live not under Adam's shadow but under Christ's light—as one who has been set free from the power of sin.

DAILY REMINDER |

As we live this day, remember although sin spread because of Adam and his actions, grace from God overflows through Jesus Christ.

FURTHER READING |

Genesis 3:1-19 – The entrance of sin

1 Cor. 15:21-22 – Death through Adam; resurrection through Christ

Psalms 51:5 – We are born with a sinful nature

John 1:16-17 – Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

"There is so much more in Jesus than you ever lost in Adam. That's the good news of the Gospel."

Adrian Rogers

DAY FIVE

ROMANS 5:18-21 | The Triumph Through Christ

TIMELESS TRUTH |

GOD'S LAW WAS GIVEN SO THAT ALL PEOPLE COULD SEE HOW SINFUL THEY WERE. BUT AS PEOPLE SINNED MORE AND MORE, GOD'S WONDERFUL GRACE BECAME MORE ABUNDANT.

ROMANS 5:20 NLT

Read Romans 5:18-21

The law revealed how deeply sin had enslaved us, but it also sets the stage for God's grace to shine even brighter. Grace doesn't just cover sin—it reigns in its place. Paul continues with the contrast between the one sin that brought condemnation for everyone and Christ's one act of righteousness that leads to the opportunity for justification for every person in the world. The law was never given to make us do right but to expose our inability to live perfectly. It turns our eyes away from self-effort to the sufficiency of Christ.

1. I say opportunity. Why is that?

2. Read Galatians 3:19-24. How long was the law designed to last?

3. What does Romans 5:20 mean that grace “abounded much more” where sin increased?

4. How do you suppose that someone could misinterpret Verse 21?

Sin ruled—leading to death. Grace now rules leading to eternal life. Jesus didn't just undo the damage Adam caused—He created a new humanity. He reversed the curse. In Christ, you are not defined by the fall of man but by the victory of the second Adam, Christ Jesus Himself. Grace has the final word!

5. What was the result of Adam's sin?

6. What is the result of Christ's obedience?

7. What do you think it means that Grace 'rules'?

PRAYER MOMENT |

In your prayer time today thank the Lord that He broke sin's rule over your life. Your obedience has opened the door to life, righteousness, and peace. Pray that God's grace will reign in your heart today—shaping your choices, words, and worship.

DAILY REMINDER |

Grace reigns where sin once ruled.

FURTHER READING |

1 Cor. 15:44-49 – Christ, the second Adam, brings life.

Col. 2:13-15 – Jesus triumphed over sin and death.

Eph. 2:1-10 – From death to life by Grace

Titus 2:11-14 – Grace teaches us to live godly lives while we wait for Christ.

*"The cross shows us the seriousness of our sin—but
it also shows us the immeasurable love of God."*

Billy Graham