

SCRIPTURE: Romans 5:1-11 TITLE: "Peace in the Gospel"

Intro: Lots of good stuff here. We could camp out here. Hiking. "Oh man. This is a good spot." Sun. Clearing. Soft grass/moss. Water. Trees for tent/tarp. Firewood. Bear bag. There are good places along the trail to slow down and enjoy views, refill water, have a snack, sit and rest, etc.. **Other places where you just decide you have to stop and set up camp. This is one of those.** Read this 20x & go home.

Thesis: "Because of the Gospel of Jesus, we HAVE Peace with God"

I. We have peace with God (1-2)

V1. Opposite of Peace = Fear/(anxiety)/worry has to do with judgment, punishment and danger

- "Perfect love casts out fear." **1 John 4:18.** Through Jesus's love, we have peace

- B/c we **HAVE** been justified. By faith. Not subjective based on experience/feeling. **"Focus on Facts."**

V2. We have also obtained access into grace by faith. We stand in his grace.

ILLUSTRATION: Costco. We have obtained **Access.** They couldn't enjoy without me. My pass.

- So we can **rejoice in HOPE of the glory** of God. Not fear His glory. **Don't have to fear his coming.**

- **Also, future glory. Share in His glory.**

APPLICATION: Do you experience the peace you already HAVE? Passes that passes understanding. Doesn't make sense. Illogical Peace. Stop trying to reason or overthink it. Christ's Peace doesn't make sense. Pray for it. Meditate on it. **Don't stop asking and seeking and knocking until you have it.**

II. Rejoice in Suffering (3-5)

v3-4. Suffering > Endurance > Character > Hope > No Shame b/c God's Love

V5. Holy Spirit pours out God's love into our hearts. "Cup overflows" Filling of Holy Spirit.

- Holy Spirit given to us by Father & Jesus. **Luke 11:1-13.** Pray for Holy Spirit.

ILLUSTRATION: Fancy Cafe. Coffee place. Skimp on the coffee. "Room for cream?" No need. They're gonna leave you room anyway. Not enough. I fill my coffee cup to the brim. Walk like this. Haha!!

- **Holy Spirit wont skimp on pouring out God's love.** Filling us up. Overflowing. Expense.

APPLICATION: When's the last time you felt "overfilled" with God's love. It's rare. Yet that's the promise. Heard one story of **D.L. Moody.** In 1871, Moody's church building was destroyed in Chicago fire. He went to New York for financial help: "I began to cry as never before for a greater blessing from God. The hunger increased...I kept on crying all the time that God would fill me with his Spirit. Well, one day in the city of New York -oh! What a day, I cannot describe it, I seldom refer to it. It is almost too sacred an experience to name...I can only say, **God revealed himself to me, and I had such an experience of his love that I had to ask him to stay his hand.**" Man. Would't that be something!?

III. Proof of God's Love (6-11)

V6. Christ died for ungodly. We were weak. Helpless. **AA. 12 Steps.. "Admit powerlessness."**

V7-8 - God's Love = While still sinners Christ died for us. "This is how we know..." **1 John 4:7-19**

- It's the simple gospel. That simple! We need to remind ourselves everyday. OCD/Ruminate Gospel.

ILLUSTRATION: Memorial Day. Fallen Soldiers. MIA. POW. "Ultimate Sacrifice". "Lay down life for friends." Country. Friends. Neighbors. Values. But Jesus died for his enemies. That He now calls His friends. Not even close. Reconciled. Not the same. Dying for someone else doesn't save you. Only if you trust in the One who died for you.

v9. Justified by his blood. (Atonement). Forgiveness. Propitiation. Death. A bleeding Savior.

- Much More shall we be saved by Jesus. *Not Reluctantly*

- **"Saved from what?"** "Have you found Jesus?" "Didn't know He was lost." Saved from **Wrath of God.**

- "In Christ Alone" "The wrath of God is satisfied" vs. "Love of God was magnified"

V10. Were enemies but are reconciled to God by death of his own son. Much more His Life. **EASTER.**

ILLUSTRATION: Coffee shop Gang Members. Enemies now Friends. Rejoice thru Jesus Christ.

V11. MORE THAN THAT! Rejoice in God. (Once enemy of God now rejoicing in Him). Reconciliation.

APPLICATION/CONCLUSION: Top Shelf Gospel. Steps. Ladder. Building on the truths. One thing, leads to another, leads to another. "MUCH MORE." "MORE THAN THAT." **Moving up.**

*Peace. (Fear. Anxiety.) Grace. Faith. Suffering. Endurance. Character. Hope. No Shame. Love.

Forgiveness. Atonement. Justification. Reconciliation. No longer enemies. Builds. And Builds. And Builds.