

Spiritual Readiness¹

Book of Romans – 5:1-11

Application Questions

Before reading the Scripture – do you have a sense of contentedness? Peace? A sense of well-being and good relationships? That everything is as the way it ought to be? In the Old Testament (OT) this is the very definition of Shalom, peace. It is peace with God and peace with human beings.

It was expected in the OT that with the coming of the Messiah (Christ) would come → Peace. A universal peace, experienced by all human beings; an everlasting peace that would come on the Day of Salvation, brought to this world by the *Prince of Peace* (Isaiah 9:5-6), who is God's "*Anointed One*" (i.e., "Messiah" – see Isaiah 61:1-2), who is the founder and bringer of the Kingdom of peace, the Kingdom of God on earth.

Shalom is the blessing that accompanies salvation for the Jews in the OT. It is a gift from Yahweh. It implies salvation from sin. It springs from withholding judgment and consequences (i.e., sparing the offender out of compassion and giving the person a sense of ease). And this sense of peace comes from being declared "justified" by God by faith in Jesus.

Q: How does being declared "justified" by God bring peace?

Read Romans 5:1-11

Q: Justification by faith is not a sterile doctrine, but rather it is the source of our present blessings. How is this true? [Walk through vv. 1-5 and speak to our blessings of faith in Christ].

¹ "Already, not yet." We are studying Romans so that you understand the gospel of Jesus and are Spiritually Ready for the Day of Salvation.