

## Romans 5

1. Chapter 5 begins with the word "therefore" and points to Paul's conclusion. This word connects Paul's present argument with what he has said in previous chapters. He has given the evidence and now reaches a conclusion. Briefly summarize the evidence that Paul has presented in the previous chapters.

What is Paul's conclusion in verse 1?

Has Paul proven his point that we are indeed justified through faith? Please explain.

2. Read verse 1 carefully and notice what follows the "therefore" clause. Since we have been justified through faith, what can we expect?

What does it mean to you to be at peace with another person?

What does it mean to you to be at peace with God?

How is this peace made possible?

How would you describe this peace?

Where are we if we are not at peace with God? (See v. 10 and Romans 8:6.) Please explain.

3. Verse 2 continues Paul's discussion. Paul talks about gaining access to God's grace. What does this mean to you?

According to Paul, how do we gain this access?

What does it mean to you that you have access to God's grace through Jesus Christ?

What does it mean to you to stand in God's grace (see the last part of verse 2)?

As a result, in what does Paul rejoice?

4. We need to take a look at life during Paul's time. For the Jew, having access to God was unthinkable. God told Moses that no one could see Him face to face and live. Gentiles were allowed in the outer court of the temple and no further, so having access to God was an amazing statement. Women could go a little further than the Gentiles, but then they, too, had to stop. Keeping this in mind, what impact do you believe Paul's statement about having access to God's grace had on the church in Rome?

5. It is also important to remember at this time Paul's central argument: we are saved by grace and not through the law. Therefore, Paul is telling us that no one can earn the peace of God. No one can make a treaty with Him. We enter into this peace by faith in Jesus Christ. How does it make you feel to know that you are at peace with God and that this peace is a gift paid for by Jesus Christ? Please explain.
  
6. In verse 3 Paul makes an interesting statement. He is talking about rejoicing in our sufferings. Please note that Paul does not say rejoice for our sufferings but in our sufferings. What does it mean to you to rejoice?

What does it mean to you to rejoice in our sufferings?

Please note. These sufferings are not the sufferings that come to all people. These sufferings are those that come to believers because they follow Christ. What might some of these sufferings be?

What do we usually do in the midst of our sufferings?

Lest we forget what life was like for the Roman believers, what can you learn about their sufferings?

What can you learn from the Bible about suffering for Christ's sake?

7. Paul now takes us on a journey, a journey that begins with sufferings. Paul says we should rejoice in our sufferings because they produce what in us?

How can sufferings produce perseverance? What exactly is perseverance?

Can you give an example, either from the Bible or from your life, where suffering produced perseverance?

8. Paul continues by saying perseverance produces character. What is character? Please explain in detail.

How does perseverance produce character?

Then, Paul says that character produces hope. How?

9. What does Paul say about hope in verse 5?

Do you agree with Paul that hope does not disappoint or put us to shame? Please explain.

What does it mean to you that God has poured out His love? How has He done this?

We need to remember that verse 5 is a result of a chain of events that began with sufferings. Verses 3-5 have been said to describe the process of maturing in the faith. Do you agree? Please explain your answer.

How does knowing this "process" help you in your walk with the Lord?

How can it help you minister to others?

10. Verse 6 states that when we were utterly helpless, weak, or without strength, God came to our aid. What does it mean to you that we were utterly helpless?

With all of our advancements in technology, medicine, and science, how would you explain this idea to the world today?

Paul goes on to say that at just the right time or in due season, God acted. What does this phrase "at just the right time" mean to you?

What can we learn from this about our timing versus God's timing?

At just the right time, what did Christ do?

11. In verses 7 & 8, Paul explains to us what true love is. He says that it may be possible to find someone who will die for a good person. It may be possible. However, God not only declares His love for us, He demonstrated His love for us. How?

What does it mean to you that while you were still a sinner and an enemy of God, Jesus died for you?

In what ways can you demonstrate your love for Christ?

12. We have spoken before about justification. In verse 9, how are you justified?

We have not earned this justification. It came to us from God through Jesus because He loved us. All who believe are thus justified. Yet, Paul states that we receive another benefit as well. Of what else can we be assured of?

After reading these verses, what does it mean to you to be saved by the blood of Jesus?

13. Verse 10 states the same idea as verse 9 but in a different way. We can read quite clearly that God acted on our behalf when we were His enemies. Therefore, since this is true, what else must be true?

14. Paul begins verse 11 by telling us that there is more good news. What is it?

What does it mean to you that you have received the reconciliation?

Now read 2 Corinthians 5:18-19. What do these verses mean to you?

15. In verse 12, Paul tells us that sin entered the world through one man. What does this tell us about sin?

What entered the world through sin?

Based upon this statement, what was God's original intention for His creation?

Why has death come to all men?

Some people might wonder how they could be considered guilty because of what Adam so long ago. Many feel this is not fair. How would answer these concerns?



16. How would you define sin?

Which came first, the law or sin? What is the significance Paul's statement?

What does the last part of verse 13 say about the relationship between sin and the law?

Based upon this truth, what is the purpose of the law?

17. What does Paul mean in verse 14 when he says that death reigned from the time of Adam until the Moses?

According to this verse, what was Adam's sin?

Paul tells us that there are those who sin by not breaking a command of God. Can you give some examples?

In what way was Adam a pattern of the one who was to come?

18. Paul tells us that the sin of one man (Adam) has affected every person. This illustrates the devastating affect of sin. Can you think of examples where the sin of one person affected others?

19. What is the gift mentioned in verse 15?

How did we receive this gift?

In what way or ways is the gift not like the trespass?

How would you restate verse 15?

20. In verse 16, Paul states one of the main differences between the gift and the trespass. What is this difference?

Why is it important for us to know that the gift followed many trespasses?

21. Adam's trespass allowed death to reign? What does this mean to you? What does reign mean?

Paul says that because this is true, that death was allowed to reign, we have another truth. What is this other truth?

Paul talks about those who receive from God. According to verse 17 what two things can we receive from God?

What is the result of this abundant provision?

22. Read vv. 18-19. What was the result of Adam's trespass?

What was the result of Christ's act of righteousness?

Paul wants to make sure we understand this simple but important truth, so he restates in verse 19. What does this verse say?

According to these verses, we have only two choices. What are they?

23. Paul says that the law was added that trespass might increase. Does this mean that there would not be as much sin if we did not have the law? Please explain.

What else increases as sin increases?

Do these two things increase at the same rate or in the same amount? Please explain.

24. Verse 21 begins with "so that" meaning Paul is going to give us the result of verse 20. Because grace increases all the more as sin increases, what is the result?

What does it mean to you that grace reigns through righteousness?

What is the result for all who believe of grace's reign through righteousness?

25. In this chapter, Paul goes to great lengths to show that sin came into creation through one man. Because we are all descendants of Adam, we are all sinners. Paul also tells us that sin reigned, and the law simply reveals the depth of our sin. Yet this is not Paul's main message. State in your own words the good news for all who believe?