

Romans 5:1-11

I have a few objectives this morning.

1. That we would understand God's grace and the implications of that grace in our lives.
2. To see the deep purpose that God has in our sufferings
3. For us all to see the vastness of God's great love for us

5 Therefore, *since* we have been justified by faith, (declared or rendered innocent, righteous, free)

Up to this point the book of Romans has gone into detail about how a person is justified before God. Paul writes on how we all have a deep need for God's grace.

At the this point in the book he moves to the implications of God's grace.

we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I. a state of national tranquility

1. exemption from the rage and havoc of war

II. peace between individuals, i.e. harmony, concord

III. of Christianity, the tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is

²Through him we have **also obtained access** by faith into **this grace** in which we stand, We stand secure in our position as being justified.

and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

A Christians hope is different than the worlds.

It is a thing of certainty.

It is in no way like Indiana weather.

We have the certain hope of being with Jesus face to face when we are done here.

".. the object of our hope is the glory of God, namely His radiant splendor which will in **the end be fully displayed....**

One day, however, the curtain will be raised and the glory of God will be fully disclosed. First, Jesus Christ himself will appear 'with great power and glory'. Secondly, we will not only see his glory, but be changed into it, so that he will 'be glorified in his holy people.' – John Stott

This refers to our ultimate glorification.

1 Peter 1:13 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, **set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

³Not only that, but **we rejoice in our sufferings**, knowing that **suffering produces endurance**, ⁴and **endurance produces character**, and **character produces hope**, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame,

We now shift to a topic of theology that I feel is often overlooked.

God has deep purpose in our sufferings!

James 1:2-4 ²Count it all joy, my brothers,^[b] when you meet trials of various kinds,³for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.⁴And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

1 Peter 1:6-7 ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

“We could not learn endurance without suffering, because without suffering there would be nothing to endure. Next, perseverance produces character. Dokime is the quality of a person who has been tested and has passed the test. It is ‘a mature character,’ ‘the temper of the veteran opposed to the raw recruit’. Then the last link in the chain is that character produces hope, perhaps because the God who is developing our character in the present can be relied on for the future too.” – Stott

Paul tells that there are two ways that we can be sure that God loves us.

1. He has poured in love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit
2. He died on the cross

because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still **weak**, at the right time Christ died for the **ungodly**. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still **sinners**, Christ died for us.

“.. we need to remember that the essence of loving is giving. ‘God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son.....’ ‘The Son of God... loved me and gave himself for me.’ Moreover, the degree of love is measured partly by the worthiness or unworthiness of the beneficiary. The more the gift costs the giver, and the less the recipient deserves it, the greater the love is seen to be.” - Stott

If someone performs an act of love toward you, there are four ways that you can see the depth of that love.

1. The Costliness of the Deed
2. How Undeserving the Object of Love Is
3. The Greatness of the Benefit Secured (how much does it benefit the person)
4. The Freedom of the Act (did the person give the gift because they had to or because they wanted to)

⁹**Since**, therefore, we have now been **justified by his blood** (present), much more shall we be saved by him *from* the wrath of God (future).

Since we have been declared righteous before God by way of Christ's blood we can be sure that we will be saved on the last day from the judgement of God's wrath!

Can have assurance of our future! We have this not because of our work but because of HIS!!

¹⁰For if while we were **enemies** we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

We are assured of our salvation because Jesus is alive!

Both His death AND resurrection are necessary for our salvation!

¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

We can do more than avoid God's wrath. We can rejoice in the one that judges justly, paid the price in full, and offers to reconcile us!

The point of this is to rejoice in God!