

Lesson 5: Romans 5:1-21 Salvation from sin's punishment

I. Introduction

To this point in the Book of Romans, Paul has convinced us that the only way to salvation is to be justified by grace through faith. Now he reveals to us its first practical benefits of justification: Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; the battle between God and us is finished - and He won, winning us. The complete sacrifice of Jesus on the cross forever fulfills God's justice toward us. Secondly, We have a *standing* in **grace** – in God's unmerited favor. This **grace** is given through Jesus and gained *by* faith. A *standing* in grace reassures us that God's present stance towards the believer in Christ Jesus is one of favor because we are in Jesus.

Romans 5, draws attention to our salvation from sin's punishment through the death of Christ. We were destined for the wrath of God "but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (5:8). Paul is writing to the believers in Rome drawing their attention to the fact that God, by His grace and mercy, demonstrated His unwavering love by sending His Son to die a sacrificial death. Through the death of Jesus, He is offering us salvation and eternal life.

In verses 12-21, Paul compares Adam's actions with Jesus's. He explains that Adam's disobedience brought sin and death into the world. In contrast, Jesus offers grace and life through His obedience. Paul points out that no matter how much sin increases God's grace is greater. This strong message highlights the hope and redemption available through Jesus Christ. This powerful message underscores the boundless hope and redemption offered through Jesus Christ, emphasizing that no matter the depth of our sins, God's grace even surpasses it all. This powerful message underscores the boundless hope and redemption offered through Jesus Christ, emphasizing that no matter the depth of our sins, God's grace even surpasses it all.

In this passage, Paul counters a common and unfortunate response to this idea of abundant grace. Some see God's grace as a license to sin, which is not what God intended, nor what Paul is teaching. The overflowing mercy of God is not a reason to sin, just so that His grace can increase.

Romans 5 emphasizes that we are justified through faith in Jesus Christ and the choice that each person has to accept God's grace or carry the weight of guilt.

II. Study the Scriptures: Read the Passage Romans 5: 1- 21

Note your thoughts as you read:

III. Think Through the Following Questions:

1. To this point in the Book of Romans, Paul has convinced us that the only way of salvation is to be justified by grace through faith, so what are the benefits of justification? In light of the benefits of justification, how should we live as sons of God?
2. In Romans 5:3-5, Paul encourages us to rejoice in our sufferings, why should we embrace our sufferings?
3. "But God demonstrates His love for us...". How does the death of the Son demonstrate the love of the Father?
4. In v.6-8, Paul makes a case for why Jesus's death for sinners is so remarkable. What argument does he make? What does it tell us about the heart of God and the love of God?
5. Considering v.9-11, why do some Christians struggle to believe that we are saved from God's wrath?
6. How does comparing Adam's work and Christ's work shape our understanding of humanity's fall and redemption? (v.17-19)
7. After all that Christ Jesus has done for us on the cross, why do so many still carry the weight of guilt?
8. *"In the whole Bible there is hardly another chapter which can equal this triumphant text."* (Martin Luther). Upon studying Romans 5, do you agree or disagree with Martin Luther and why?

IV. Lessons Learned: Are there any new things you learned from this passage today?

V. Application: How Do you think this will impact your thinking and/or actions going forward?

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