

SUMMARY OF JUSTIFICATION

ROMANS 5:1-11

Text:

Introduction:

Thus far in Romans, Paul has spent considerable time detailing man's need for salvation. We have learned that man is a sinner and that he abides under the wrath of God. We have learned that nothing associated with religion, works, the Law, or with rituals can ever provide salvation to humanity. We have seen that we are totally dependent upon faith to bring us into a right relationship with the Lord. It all comes down to realizing that it is not what we do that makes the difference in the saving of our souls, it is all about Who we know.

With this truth firmly nailed down, Paul now moves forward in his discussion of the doctrines of salvation. Now, Paul begins to tell his readers the benefits of being saved by grace through faith.

Notice:

1. OUR POSITION AS BELIEVERS (VS. 1)

In order to enjoy the peace of God we must have peace with God. This is accomplished by the work done by Jesus Christ. Notice what this verse says about our position.

Romans 5:1

¹Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

A. Our position declared

Paul says that we who have believed have been "justified".

Even though we are unrighteous and wicked, God treats us as though we were as righteous and pure as He is Himself.

This is only possible because of the work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Justification does not mean that we are perfect; it just means that God sees us as though we were.

B. Our position described

How did this great miraculous and fantastic justification come about in your life and mine? By faith! We didn't earn it! We didn't deserve it! All we did was take God at His Word concerning the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus and God justified us by faith!

2. OUR POSSESSIONS AS BELIEVERS (VSS. 1-2)

Romans 5:1-2

¹Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: ²By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Paul lists for us some of the benefits of justification. Because we are considered righteous by the Lord, there are certain things that belong to us tonight. These possessions are very precious and should never be taken for granted, but we should meditate on them and allow them to be the cause for rejoicing in the Lord.

A. We possess acceptance (vs.1b)

According to Paul, salvation brings with it *peace* with God! This is a truth that can hardly be understood by our mortal minds!

When Jesus is trusted by faith, that person enjoys immediate peace with God. What does this mean?

1. God's wrath is turned away – Romans 5:9

Romans 5:9

⁹ Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

2. God is satisfied – 1 John 2:2

1 John 2:2

² And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

3. We are reconciled by to God – 2 Cor. 5:18

2 Corinthians 5:18

¹⁸ And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

There is an expression that I have heard many people use over the years. It involves "Making peace with God." I read about an old saint who was dying. He was visited by a friend who asked him, "Have you made you peace with God?" The man replied, "No, I haven't." To that his friend said, "What! Oh you must make peace with God." "I'm sorry, I cannot do that.", replied the dying man. His friend said, "But you must! Don't you

know that it is dangerous to die without making peace with God?" To this, the dying man said, "But how can I make peace with God? My Lord made peace with me 2,000 years ago when He died on the cross, and I accepted it. I have had peace ever since!" This man understood the truth of Colossians 1:20:

Colossians 1:20

²⁰ And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

We don't make peace with God; He made peace with us at the cross.

B. We possess access (vs. 2a)

Romans 5:2

² By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Through Jesus Christ, we have direct access to God Himself. The word "access" means "to enter the presence of the king."

Through Jesus, we have the right to enter into the very presence of the God of Heaven without fear! We have access to the Heavenly Father!

Illustration:

A little boy once stood outside the gate of Buckingham Palace in London. He wanted to talk to the king, but was sternly turned away by the guards at the gate. As he stood there crying, a well-dressed man approached him and asked the little fellow why he was so upset. The little boy told the man his story. When he had heard the reason behind the little boy's tears, he smiled and said, "Here, hold my hand, sonny. I'll get you in. Just you never mind those soldiers!" The little boy took the stranger's hand and together they approached the gate. When the soldiers saw them coming, they all snapped to attention and opened wide the gate for the stranger and the little boy to enter. He was led through the gate, across the courtyard, down carpeted hallways and through open doors, until finally; he was brought into the very presence of the king himself. What got him there? He was holding the right hand! You see, the kind stranger was none other than the Prince of Wales, the king's own son.

C. We possess assurance (vs. 2b)

Romans 5:2

²By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Not only is there peace with God and access into God's presence, but the believer also enjoys the assurance of salvation.

Notice that the assurance we have is two-fold.

1. Assurance here

Notice the phrase, "grace wherein we now stand." The word "stand" carries the idea of permanence, of being firmly fixed and immovable. Basically, this verse teaches us that we are absolutely secure in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Many question the fact of that salvation is eternal, or that we can lose our salvation.

Romans 8:31-34

³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth. ³⁴ Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

These verses let us know that God has declared the believer justified, and there is no one higher.

2. Assurance hereafter

Just as sure as we can know and believe that we are saved and secure in this life, so too, we can have that same assurance beyond this life

This life extends beyond the grave

3. OUR PRIVILEGES AS BELIEVERS (VS. 3-5)

Romans 5:3-5

³ And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; ⁴ And patience, experience; and experience, hope: ⁵ And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

We are saved and we are secure, but right now, we live in a world of trials and tribulations. Notice some of the great privileges that are our as believers in Jesus Christ:

A. The ability to rejoice in trouble (vs. 3a)

Romans 5:3

³ And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

Paul says that the Christian can rejoice in the bad times of life. Why is this true? It's true because of the little word "knowing".

When the trials of life descend, the true believer knows that God is working out His will in our lives and is attempting to produce in us a state of Christlikeness. God is trying to make us like Jesus.

The word "tribulations" means "pressure". There are certainly times when this life will exert pressure on the

child of God. However, the mature Christian also knows that it takes pressure to produce Christlikeness.

Pressure is the process used to turn coal into diamonds. And, it is pressure in the life of the believer that forces out more of the old, sinful nature and reveals more of the image of God.

We can rejoice in trouble if we will remember that every trial is a blessing from the very hand of God.

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

B. The ability to recognize our troubles (vs. 3b-5a)

Romans 5:3-5

³ And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; ⁴ And patience, experience; and experience, hope: ⁵ And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Paul tells us all about the benefits derived from the "pressures" of life. Note the progression mentioned in these verses.

- Tribulation – Pressure
- Patience – Endurance

- Experience – Proven Character or Maturity
- Hope – The confident expectation that we will not be disappointed

Basically, what Paul is saying is that when troubles come in our lives as a result of our walk with the Lord, we learn to endure and through endurance we are matured and proven in our character, then as we see God sustain us in the difficult time, we can rest in the deep settled knowledge that He is in control and will see us through.

Illustrations:

- Ask those who endured great pressure:
- Ask Abraham and he will point to Mt. Moriah
- Ask Jacob and he will point to a pillow of stone
- Ask Joseph and he will point to an Egyptian prison
- Ask Moses and he will point to the backside of the desert
- Ask the three Hebrew boys and they will point to a fiery furnace

- Ask Daniel and he will point to a den of lions
- Ask Peter and he will point to a Roman fire and his denial of Christ
- Ask John and he will point to the isle of Patmos
- Ask any believer who has followed the Lord for some time and they will tell you that, “God’s blessing at time are poured from a bitter cup”

C. The ability to rest in our troubles (vs. 5b)

Romans 5:5

⁵ And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

If life is to be difficult and there is to be trouble in my life, then how can I rejoice and how can I rest? The answer lies in this verse. Paul tells us that the love of God, is constantly being poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit!

As we go through this life, there will be many difficult days. However, as we face all the things that will come our way, we always have the precious Holy Spirit in us to guide us, to teach us, to constantly remind us of the love of God for His children.

He makes the trip bearable! He makes the destination believable.

If we will but learn to rest in the Spirit of God, He has the power to keep our hearts in perfect peace, regardless of how difficult the way becomes.

Isaiah 26:3

³Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose mind is stayed on thee*: because he trusteth in thee.

It helps us in time of suffering.

B. The fruit of this assurance (vs. 4)

Suffering produces patience, and patience produces experience or character, and experience or character produces hope.

4. THE BELIEVER IS INDWELT BY GOD (VS. 5)

Romans 5:5

⁵And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Close:

These reasons are more than sufficient to give every child of God justification to rejoice in God and in His salvation.

