

What You Should Know About the Christian Life

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Romans 5:1-8

November 26, 2023

Romans 5 – It is about the TRUTH of ASSURANCE of SALVATION.

- HELPING you REALIZE the BENEFITS of what CHRIST has done for you.
- You need to KNOW what is true of the CHRISTIAN.
- PAUL wants the ROMANS to KNOW what they have in the GOSPEL.

NOTICE it how it BEGINS. Romans 5:1: [1] *Therefore, having been justified by faith.*

- We are SAVED by TRUSTING CHRIST in FAITH. That's how we are JUSTIFIED.
- NOT by INVITING CHRIST into our HEARTS.
- CHRIST in the HEART is always the RESULT of SALVATION. NEVER the CAUSE of SALVATION.

Paul is making an ARGUMENT (*Therefore*)... and this ARGUMENT has to do with this word JUSTIFICATION.

- JUSTIFICATION –The GREEK word *dikaio* – Means to RENDER a favorable courtroom verdict...
- Speaks to the DECLARATION that you are RIGHTEOUS.
- The PROBLEM is NONE is RIGHTEOUS.
 - Romans 3:10 – [10] *as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one;"*
 - Romans 3:20 – [20] *For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.*
 - Romans 3:23 – [23] *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*
 - The message of the BIBLE is not there are some BAD and some GOOD. The message is that we are all BAD.
- Romans 3:25 – [25] *whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.*
 - A propitiation is A SACRIFICE that pleases GOD by SATISFYING God's WRATH for SIN.
 - Hebrews 9:12 – [12] *he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.*
 - The BLOOD goes back to the OLD TESTAMENT sacrifices. The BLOOD represents LIFE.
- The BENEFITS of CHRIST'S LIFE are given as a GIFT through FAITH.
 - Romans 4:5 – [5] *And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.*
 - FAITH puts you in a STATUS POSITIONALLY with GOD where you have been declared RIGHTEOUS.
 - HERE are the BENEFITS you must know!

1) The Reality of Peace

- 5:1 – [1b] *we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- This peace that is in REFERENCE is NOT an EMOTION. Or a FEELING.
- It is an OBJECTIVE FACT.

- TERMS of PEACE have been ESTABLISHED.
 - What this IMPLIES:
 - 1) *We once hated God as our Enemy.*
 - Colossians 1:21 – [21] *And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds*
 - Because of our SIN... we were KNOWN ENEMIES of GOD.
 - 2) *God once hated us as His enemy.*
 - 1 Corinthians 15:25 – [25] *For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.*
 - Psalm 7:12 – [12] *If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow; [13] he has prepared for him his deadly weapons, making his arrows fiery shafts.*
 - Revelation 19:15 – [15] *From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.*
 - Ever heard the names Sodom and Gomorrah?
 - Have you ever heard the story of Noah and the Great Flood?
 - Have you ever heard that God doesn't hate the sinner but God only hates the sin. That's not TRUE.
 - It's people that God will judge on the last day. Not just sins.
- What Paul is saying is that if you are JUSTIFIED by FAITH you are now under these TERMS of PEACE. A TREATY between you and GOD has been drawn.
 - Romans 5:10 – [10] *For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son...*
 - And the TREATY was made by the LORD JESUS CHRIST!

And if you are NOT... the only way is by TRUSTING CHRIST through faith.

- This is why the gospel is called a gospel of RECONCILIATION. 1 Corinthians 5:20 – [20] *Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*

2) Stand on Grace

You have obtained access into the REALM of GRACE.

- This BENEFIT is clearly articulated. Romans 5:2 – [2] *Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand*
- ACCESS speaks to an appearance before a GREAT KING.
 - The NASB translates it as 'INTRODUCTION.'
 - In a King's Court the NAME of the PERSON entering is ANNOUNCED.
 - What PAUL is saying... You have that INTRODUCTION.
- And what PAUL is SAYING – this is the NEW BENEFIT of the CHRISTIAN. *We have OBTAINED ACCESS to the REALM of GOD'S GRACE.*
 - It is an ACCESS into the DIVINE THRONEROOM of GOD.
 - GRACE means DIVINE FAVOR.
 - You are no LONGER on the OUTSIDE. You are PART of GOD's ROYAL FAMILY.
 - John 1:12 – [12] *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,*
 - Ephesians 3:12 – [12] *in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.*

- NOTICE. Paul says – PRESENT TENSE – *we stand in this sphere of GRACE of constant access to GOD.*
 - Matthew 7:7 – [7] *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. [8] “For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. [9] “or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? [11] “if you then, who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!*

3) Exalt in the Second Coming

This is the HEIGHT of the BELIEVER’s ASSURANCE.

Romans 5:2 – [2]... *we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.*

- HOPE of the GLORY of GOD... “The Glory of God” is the return of Christ to this EARTH.
 - Mark 8:38b – [38b] *he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.*
 - Titus 2:13 – [13] *waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ*
 - 1 Peter 4:13 – [13] *But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.*
- The CHRISTIAN’S HOPE is REVELATION 21 and 22. It’s CHRIST for all ETERNITY. And it’s a SURE HOPE.
 - When DEATH and SIN are ELIMINATED forever.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:51 – [51] *Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, [52] in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable and we shall be changed. [53] For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.*

PAUL says the BELIEVER EXALTS in this HOPE. The BELIEVER boasts in this HOPE. That is a DEEP ASSURANCE. The UNBELIEVER QUESTIONS it.

- Revelation 19:11 – [11] *Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.... [16] On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.*

4) Exalt in Suffering

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

- What a PROFOUND thing to say... “We rejoice in our sufferings...”
- The only way that you can SAY that is if you know that GOD has a specific purpose in your SUFFERING (*thlipsis*).
- SUFFERING produces ENDURANCE (the capacity to bear up in the face of difficulty).
- CHARACTER – is the QUALITY proved through TESTING. It is BATTLE TESTED character.

CHARACTER PRODUCES HOPE in that you are ABLE to SEE your SITUATION in LIGHT of GOD. You have this CERTAINTY that GOD will lead you through. That you will make it to the OTHER SIDE.

- SOMEONE who has WEATHERED STORMS. HAS the ASSURANCE that HE WILL WEATHER FUTURE STORMS.

- Psalm 121:1 – [1] *I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?* [2] *My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.* [3] *He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.* [4] *Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.* [5] *The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.* [6] *The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.* [7] *The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.* [8] *The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.*

5) The Experience of the Love of God

This is one of those SACRED GROUNDS in the NEW TESTAMENT...

Paul's experience of the LOVE of GOD.

- The other things have been truths you need to know... This is an EXPERIENCE every believer should EXPERIENCE.
- 5b – [5b] *because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*
- It is the INNER TESTIMONY of the HOLY SPIRIT in the HEART of the love of GOD.
- 1 Cor 6:19 – [19] *Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.*
- This is Why our LORD said in JOHN 16:7 – [7] *Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.*
- The HOLY SPIRIT makes His fellowship with us. Brings CHRIST'S presence to us.
 - John 14:18 – [18] *I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*
 - John 14:23 – [23] *Jesus answered him, "If anyone love me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."*
 - 1 John 1:3 – [3] *Indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. [4] And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.*
 - There is an INNER EXPERIENCE of the LOVE of GOD.
 - The HOLY SPIRIT works this in our hearts.
 - The MEDIATED PRESENCE of CHRIST.

6) The Knowledge of the Love of God

Romans 5:6 – [6] *For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.*

- Weak (Asthenes) Helpless.
- That is our MORAL PREDICAMENT.
 - Moreover... we are UNGODLY.
- At the RIGHT TIME Christ die... (*huper*) for the ungodly!

Romans 5:7 – [7] *For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—*

- There are instances where someone will give their live for another.
- You probably wouldn't do it for someone who was self-righteous. Self-important.
- Though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die...

Romans 5:8 – [8] *But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

- SINNERS – Law – breakers.
- His own SON.
- God LOVES you because HE LOVES you!