

Introduction:

- In this letter to the Romans Paul explains his gospel to a christian community that he did not plant nor have prior input into.
 - He is all about the Good News.
 - The Good news is the power of God to salvation to all who believe.
 - He sums up we all are sinners in need of justification by God through faith.
 - There are no works that can accomplish this: Not obedience to law, legacy, or circumcision.

I. Overview of next section. An overview allows us to see from a 'big picture' view.**A. How Does Paul Proceed Into Chapter Five?**

1. First, 5:1 *Having been justified/since we have been made right with God...* summarizes what has been discussed and at the same time prepares us for discussion on a new topic.
2. Second, there is a shift in style. In this section Paul begins to speak more in first person, "I" "we". Rather than in the argumentative fashion of "you" in the last section.
3. Third there is a major shift in terminology.
 - a) In chapter 1-4, 'faith and believe' occur 33 times whereas in chapters 5-8 they occur three times.
 - b) In the first section, 'life and live are used three time and in chapters 5-8 they are used 24 times.
 - c) In the earlier section the focus seems to be justification by faith and in sections 5-8 there is a more 'ethical' understand of righteousness by faith.
4. Fourth, and another key connecting chapter 5 with 6-8 is, most of what is mentioned in chapter 5 is again mentioned in chapter 8. Therefore the two chapters server to bracket what is in between.
 - a) Both 5:1-11 and 8:18-39, affirm in spite of tribulation and suffering, the certainty of our final salvation, the work of Christ and the ministry of the Holy Spirit to believers.
 - b) The assurance of God's glory becomes a major theme of this second second section. In the 3:23 we all fall short of the glory/presence of God. In this section, the assurance is upon our sharing in His presence/glory.
 - c) "Here, in between 5 and 8 Paul focuses on the situation of the Christian in this life—a situation of some tension and conflict because, while transferred through our justification into the new realm of God's kingdom, the powers of the old realm to which we no longer belong nevertheless continue to influence us."

Moo, D. J. (1996). NICNT Romans (pp. 293-294). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

- B. In chapters 5-8, Paul invites us as Christians to join with him in thanksgiving for what the Good News/Gospel provides...a new life given to God's service in this life and a certain glorious hope for the life to come.
1. At the same time he continues his defense of the Gospel.
 2. And encourage us in our walk with the God.

II. The Hope of Glory

- A. Paul invites the reader of the letter to join him in celebrating the benefits of justification by faith for the believer. Two things are highlighted here.
1. Peace with God vs 1-2a.
 2. Hope vs 11.
 3. We are both (1) reconciled to God and (2) are to share in the future glory. But hope comes to dominate in verse 10: *"For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son."* (Rom 5:10, NLT) Hope and glory become the main topic of 12-21.
 - a) we rejoice in the hope of God 2b
 - b) 5a hope will not put us to shame.
- B. Verse 1
1. By believing in Jesus, we have been declared innocent of falling short of the Glory of God. What does this mean?
 2. It means we have first, peace with God. Peace is not just the absence of hostility. It is the well-being, prosperity, or salvation of the godly person. Nu 6:26.
 3. It is not just an inner feeling but a state of existing out of a relationship with God. Paul perceives this peace with God coming out of a former hostile relationship with God.
 4. Like justification, peace comes only through faith in Christ.
 - a) *"Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us."* (Romans 5:1, NLT)
 - b) *"So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God."* (Romans 5:11, NLT)
- C. Verse 2, it is by faith that we have access to this realm of faith.
1. Grace is God's ability in me to do the things I can not do in and of myself.
 2. While this state of grace includes our justification as a key element, the notion goes beyond justification to all that is conveyed to us by God in Christ. Moo, D. J. (1996). NICNT Romans (p. 301). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.
 3. Verse 2 ends with Paul boasting in the grace that gives us such hope! What we lost in 3:23 glory of God, is restored in Christ.

- D. Verse three: Not only do sufferings not overthrow the grace, goodness, peace and hope of God. They actually encourage them. They use afflictions to boast all the more of the glorious grace of God.
1. "All suffering betrays the presence of the enemy and involves attacks on our relationship to Christ. If met with doubt in God's goodness and promise, or bitterness toward others, or despair and even resignation, these sufferings can bring spiritual defeat to the believer. But if met with the attitude of "confidence and rejoicing" that Paul encourages here, these sufferings will produce those valuable spiritual qualities that Paul lists in vv. 3b-4." Moo, D. J. (1996). NICNT Romans (p. 303). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.
 2. Know that grace come in trials gives us the confidence to persevere.
 - a) *"So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world."* (1 Peter 1:6-7, NLT)
 - b) *"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."* (James 1:2-4, NLT)
 - (1) Endurance is a word meaning to hold up under.
 - (2) If our attitude stays right it will result in tested character.
 - c) Sufferings, rather than threatening or weakening hope, actually increases our certainty in that hope. Ie. Hope like a muscle must experience resistance training in order to be made strong. This leads to deep confidence in Christ.
- E. Verse 5 become the anchor point of the 1-11.
1. Hope does not disappoint us!
 2. Because we now know the fullness of God's love through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- F. Verse 6-8
1. The love of God is the motivation for us to be in relationship with Him.
 2. The love of God is the motivation for us to be in relationship with Him because of His love.
 3. That love in us motivates us to endure suffering because of the reward: To Him, He gets us. To us, we get Him and His grace!
- G. Verse 11 becomes the capstone of this section and the spring board to the next.