

**Introduction:**

- We left off on the 15th in starting a new section (chapters 5-8) of Romans.
- I gave an overview of the section:
  - Vs 1 prepares us for a new topic in Paul's letters.
  - Shift in style from 'you' to 'I'. More in first person in this section.
  - Shift in terminology from (faith and believe) to (life and live).
  - 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.
- Paul invites us to celebrate both the peace with God and the Hope we have in Him.

**I. The Hope of Glory**

## A. 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)

## B. Verse 2, it is by faith that we have access to this realm of grace.

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.

C. Verse three: Not only do sufferings not overthrow the grace, goodness, peace and hope of God. They actually encourage them. The use afflictions allow us to boast all the more of the glorious grace of God. *"We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials..."*

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 coming 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. It has to do with spiritual fortitude...stick-to-itiveness. Heb 12:1 throw off every weight and run with endurance the race before us.
    - (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. I.e. Hope like a muscle must experience resistance training in order to be made strong. This leads to deep confidence in Christ.
- D. 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.
    - a) Love 'poured out' / 'filled' it is LAVISH!
    - b) 5:5 is the first time Paul speaks of the love of God in the letter to the Romans. It is a prominent topic of Paul's.
- E. Verse 6-8 These verses demonstrate the extent of God's love for us.
  1. The love of God is the motivation for us to be in relationship with Him.
    - a) verse 6, the ones Jesus dies for are weak and godless. His love came while were utterly helpless.
  2. The love of God is the motivation for us to be in relationship with Him because of His love.
    - a) vs. 7 the top of human love is to die for someone good...spouse, child, friend, etc.
    - b) vs 8 the top of God's love is compared to ours. We are willing to die for a good person He is willing to die for us while we are sinners!
    - c) Again, God's love is shown in Christ's death.

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!
  4. One other thing to note: Each of the verses of 6-8 end with the word "die".
- F. Verses 9-10
1. Has a rhythm, made right/by blood. Certainly saved/God's condemnation. Friendship with God/death of his Son. While His enemies/Saved through life of His Son.
  2. If God has done the more difficult thing...reconciling unworthy sinners...how much more can He do the easier thing of saving us from His wrath.
  3. The language of vs 10 changes from justified "a legal' thought and reconciled, "a relational" thought.
- G. Verse 11 becomes the capstone of this section and the spring board to the next.

## II. The Reign of Grace and Life 12-21

- A. This section is as powerful theologically as 3:21-26.
1. With a broad brush and with broad strokes Paul lays out in this section the history of redemption. He does not mention Jew or Gentile...just people.
  2. "All people, Paul teaches, stand in relationship to one of two men, whose actions determine the eternal destiny of all who belong to them." Moo, D. J. (1996). [The Epistle to the Romans](#) (p. 315). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. You either belong to Adam and are sentence to death or you belong to Christ and are assured of sternal life.
  3. In this passage we see the power of Christ's obedience totally overcoming the power of Adam's disobedience! Many who study and who preach from this passage focus on the sin and undermine the more powerful thought of Christ's victory!
- B. Verse 12. Paul is not concerned with 'original sin' in this passage but with 'original death'. Paul makes it very clear that no one escapes the reign of sin.