At Peace *(Romans 5:1-11)*

29 March 20

Background/Review

- Last week *(Romans 3:21-4:3)* – We learned that all who accept the Gospel by faith are justified before God!
  - This doctrine of justification by faith provided the impetus for most phases of the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century
  - Martin Luther [1483-1546] believed good theologians rightly distinguishes between law and grace [***by grace we're saved thru faith***]
- Today we will delve deeper into justification to better understand the origin of the peace [in all circumstances] we received thru Christ!

Justified With Benefits *(Rom 5:1-5)* ***1 Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Also through Him, we have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, 4 endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. 5 This hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.***

- In our world, God's creation, Christ alone mediates ***peace*** with God; Christ personified that ***peace*** [cessation of conflict with eternal God]
  - ***through Him*** [Jesus]***, we have obtained access*** to God ***by faith*** – Jesus, said:
    - ***I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*** [Jesus is the only way]***.*** *(Jn 14:6)*
    - ***I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved,*** he will ***go in and out and find pasture*** [peace for sheep] *(Jn 10:9)*
  - Today, people explore many paths to find peace, but it's only available thru a personal relationship with God – Only thru Jesus!
  - Also, peace with God is nowhere more *visible* than in how believers respond to trials and tribulation
- Via Christ, we ***rejoice in***: [1] ***the hope of God's glory*** [bright/endless future with God and no sin]***,*** that ***does not disappoint*** [***His love poured out***] [***Double Measure of Hope***] [2] ***our afflictions*** yield [in order] ***endurance*** [patients], ***proven character*** [experience/discernment], ***hope*** [molds us]
  - ***I reckon that the sufferings of this present time aren't worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*** *(Rm 8:18)*
  - As Christ's followers we know God uses the difficulties of life to produce endurance, discernment, and hope [confident assurance]

Justified Through His [Jesus'] Death and Reconciled *(Rom 5:6-11)* ***6 For while we were still helpless, at the appointed moment, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For rarely will someone die for a just person-though for a good person perhaps someone might even dare to die. 8 But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us! 9 Much more then, since we have now been declared righteous by His blood, we will be saved through Him from wrath. 10 For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, [then how] much more, having been reconciled, will we be saved by His life! 11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.***

- The basis of a Christian's justification is Christ's death, burial, and resurrection that God provided ***at the appointed moment*** [God's plan]
  - Christ gave His life for sinners, not righteous men – ***while we were still sinners Christ died for us*** – What love He demonstrated!
  - *(Romans 3-4)* declares we're justified by Jesus' shed blood and saved from God's ***wrath*** [His fixed opposition to sin] thru Christ!
- Another way to consider this is that of Jesus being our agent for:

		Past/Present/Future	
Justification [being set right with God at salvation – delivered from sin's penalty]	Past	*I was saved*	**Justification**
Sanctification [being delivered from the power of sin power – to be set apart]	Present	*I am being saved*	**Sanctification**
Glorification [being delivered from the presence of sin at Christ's return]	Future	*I shall be saved*	**Glorification**

- Consider the analogy of a cancelled check that pays for [cancels our debt] our justified relationship with God and provides peace!

Salvation Check — **Date:** Upon Acceptance by Faith

Pay to the Order of **GOD THE JUDGE** — **$** Shed Blood

The Blood of Jesus Christ — Dollars

For: Believer's Salvation While Still A Sinner — **GOD THE JUSTIFIER** (Signature)

Endorsed By: **Back Side**

THE HOLY SPIRIT & GOD'S WORD

[Because of this cancelled check for my salvation, I can, and should, live my life like I'm debt free because I am debt free and that brings peace]

- Lastly, consider the 8 blessings presented in this Scripture that are ours as a result of a right relationship with God – We:

[1] have peace with God *(5:1)*
[2] have access to God *(5:2)*
[3] stand in the grace of God *(5:2)*
[4] rejoice in the hope of God's glory *(5:2)*
[5] begin to develop God's character *(5:3,4)*
[6] know God's love *(5:5-8)*
[7] enjoy God's security *(5:9,10)*
[8] receive reconciliation with God *(5:11)*

- It is God's plan for you to have a relationship with Him that leads to peace and the abundant life promised by Jesus
  - Jesus words: ***"…I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly"*** *(John 10:10)*

Do You Have Peace With God In All Circumstances and Experience the 8 Blessings Above? – If Not, Believe, Starting Right Now!