

*“Grace & Peace to You”*  
**A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS**

Voice of China and Asia  
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**ROMANS LESSON 29 PART 1: “PEACE WITH GOD”**

**ROMANS 5:1-5** *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, **we have peace with GOD** through our LORD JESUS CHRIST. <sup>2</sup> Through HIM we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of GOD.*

<sup>3</sup> *Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because GOD'S love has been poured into our hearts through the HOLY SPIRIT who has been given to us.*

**ROMANS 5** is the Apostle Paul's transition into the core of his teaching on the Doctrines of our Redemption. **CHAPTERS 5-8** form one of the greatest discussions in all of the Bible regarding God's purpose, plan, and process of bringing "justification" to those who believe in Jesus Christ.

In order for God to deal in a judicious and yet merciful way toward sinful mankind, He would send **HIS SON** as **a substitute**: He would be the one whose death would satisfy the wrath of God against SIN, and He would restore **those who believe in the Son** to a place of **"PEACE WITH GOD."**

**WORDS OF OUR SALVATION:**

In this Section of Scripture, we are introduced to some terms that are FILLED with deep significance. We will study more fully each one as they are encountered. Just in **CHAPTER 5**, alone, we find:

<i>Justification / Righteousness:</i>	<i>Died / Death:</i>	<i>Free Gift:</i>
<i>Faith:</i>	<i>Sin / Sinners:</i>	<i>Abounded:</i>
<i>Peace:</i>	<i>Saved:</i>	<i>Judgment / Condemnation:</i>
<i>To Obtain Access:</i>	<i>Wrath of God:</i>	<i>Disobedience / Obedience:</i>
<i>Grace:</i>	<i>Enemies:</i>	<i>Were Made:</i>
<i>Hope:</i>	<i>Reconciled / Reconciliation:</i>	<i>Came In / Was Added:</i>
<i>Glory:</i>	<i>Reign / Reigned:</i>	<i>Increase:</i>
<i>Love:</i>	<i>Trespass:</i>	<i>Life:</i>
<i>The Ungodly:</i>	<i>Type:</i>	<i>Eternal:</i>

Without becoming overwhelmed, it is important that we come to an understanding of **“How... Why”** each of these words has direct affect upon our Salvation.

While this knowledge is NOT necessary for us to **“be Saved...”** it does increase our appreciation of ALL that the simple act of **“faith in Jesus Christ”** means for us and has done for us.

## THEREFORE...

**ROM 5:1** “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith...”

- In regard to ALL that has been presented...
- AS a result of “God’s justifying...” and “Our faith...”
- As the principle by which we will receive ALL the benefits of Salvation...

## EIGHT SPIRITUAL TRUTHS... ROM 5:1-11

Justification is not the “END” of what God has prepared for ALL who BELIEVE! We learn from Paul that this “*justification*” includes “8” great truths that become ours as the result of our being brought into “*right standing*” with God. These are the “*blessings*” that are included both *in the process* by which we are made “*righteous,*” and *in the results* “*righteousness.*”

- **5:1) PEACE WITH GOD...** – The unsaved person is “*at enmity with God*” (ROM. 5:10; 8:7) because he cannot obey God’s Law or fulfill God’s Will. Two verses from ISAIAH make the matter clear: “*There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked*” (ISA. 48:22); “*And the work of righteousness shall be peace*” (ISA. 32:17).
- **5:2a) ACCESS TO ALL OF GOD’S GRACE...** – The **JEW** was kept from God’s presence by the Veil in the TEMPLE; and the **GENTILE** was kept out by a Wall in the TEMPLE with a warning on it that any Gentile who went beyond would be killed. But when Jesus died, He tore the Veil (LUKE 23:45) and broke down the Wall (EPH. 2:14). NOW, all the Blessings of God’s Grace are available to us.
- **5:2b) A GLORIOUS HOPE...** – “*Peace with God*” applies to the Past: He will no longer hold our sins against us. “*Access to God*” applies to the Present: we can come to Him at any time for the help we need. “*Hope of the glory of God*” applies to the Future: one day we shall share in His glory!

## ROMANS LESSON 29 PART 2: “PEACE WITH GOD”

- **5:3-4a) PROVEN CHARACTER...** – Justification is not an escape from the trials of life. “*In this world you shall have tribulation*” (JOHN 16:33). But for the believer, trials work *for* him and not *against* him. No amount of suffering can separate us from the Lord (ROM. 8:35–39); instead, trials should bring us closer to the Lord and make us more like the Lord. “*Endurance under pressure*” builds Christian character. The word “*experience*” in ROMANS 5:4 means “*Character that has been proved.*” The sequence is: tribulation—patience—proven character—hope.
- **5:4b) A REAL HOPE...** - It is the experience of coming through a time of testing that produces Hope. Our confidence in God’s ability and willingness to bring us through difficult times leads to an ever-brighter Hope for that which lies beyond. Consider Paul’s words in 2 COR 1:3-10 Hope is not superficial optimism but the confident assurance of that which will surely come to pass.

- 5:5-8) **GOD'S LOVE WITHIN...** – As we wait for this **Hope** to be fulfilled, the **LOVE** of God is “*poured out into our hearts*” (lit.) Note how the first three of the “*fruit of the Spirit*” are experienced: *love* (ROM. 5:5), *joy* (ROM. 5:2), and *peace* (ROM. 5:1).  
Before we were saved, God proved His **LOVE** by sending Christ to die for us. Now that we are His children, surely His **LOVE** will be even more of a reality.
- 5:9-10) **SALVATION FROM FUTURE WRATH...** – Paul argues from the lesser to the greater. *If God saved us when we were enemies, surely, He will keep on saving us now that we are His children.* There IS a “*wrath to come,*” but no true believer will experience it (1 THES. 1:9–10; 5:8–10). Paul further argues that IF Christ’s **death** accomplished so much for us, how much more will He do for us in His **life** as He intercedes for us in heaven! The phrase, “*Saved by His life*” refers to ROMANS 4:25: “*raised again for [on account of] our justification.*” Because He LIVES, we are **eternally saved** (HEB. 7:23–25).
- 5:11) **RECONCILIATION WITH GOD...** - The word used here is “**reconciliation**, brought back into fellowship with God.” The term is mentioned also in ROMANS 5:10.  
In ROMANS 1:18–32, Paul explained how *mankind had declared war on God* and, because of this, deserved to be condemned eternally. **BUT God did not declare war on man.** Instead, **He sent His Son to be “our Peace”** (EPH. 2:11–18) that men might be reconciled to God.

## PEACE WITH GOD...

**ROM 5:1** *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Notice the progression...

➤ *Since we have been Justified.....*

I have talked before about the “**universalist**” interpretation of this verse that errantly states: “*Therefore, having been justified by the faith OF the Lord Jesus Christ, we have peace with God.*” They mistakenly apply the “faith” by which we are justified from OUR faith to a “faith” which Jesus had. And they totally drop the phrase, “through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Their error is to remove the responsibility TO BELIEVE from the individual person, and make “salvation” a result of Jesus’ faith... thus making it universal to all people, no matter WHAT they believe.

### The TRUTH:

Paul has proved that the whole world is guilty before God, and that no one can be saved by religious deeds, such as keeping the Law. He has explained that God’s way of salvation has always been “**by grace, through faith**” (EPH. 2:8–9), and he has used Abraham as his illustration.

But he must also answer the “**projected questions**” of many who are just now hearing of this truth, and also of many Jews who STILL think they can ONLY be saved by “**keeping the Law.**”

He starts with the conclusion from the former writing [CHAPTERS 1-4]: “**Justification is BY faith...**”

- **Having been justified...** – Paul does NOT use a “**present tense verb**– ‘we are justified’” but the verb form that states: “**At a time in the past that is NOW complete we WERE justified... as a FACT.**” It is DONE! Just as God “**imputed righteousness**” to Abraham, it is OVER. It cannot be Undone!

- **BY... Faith...** – There is only ONE principle by which we can be “justified” – we MUST Believe! Since CHAPTER 1, Paul has used this principle, restated it, illustrated it, and proved it!
- **We HAVE...** – Stating as clearly as possible to those who spoke THIS language: “THIS is a current reality that is ever present for the Believer.” He could say, “WE are always having Peace WITH God.”
- **Peace WITH God...**
  - Peace WITH... – EPH 2:14-15
  - Peace OF... – PHIL 4:6
- **THROUGH our Lord Jesus Christ.** – THIS is the “agency” by which this Peace has come.
  - It is NOT because of what WE could do...
  - It is NOT because God has changed the terms, and we are “OK” now...
  - It is ONLY because:
 

ROM 4:24-25 *It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord,*  
<sup>25</sup> *who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.*