



Empowering People to Change the World

Peace with God through Calvary

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ROMANS 5:1-2

Read: "The Road" declaration

Theme Passage:

Romans 5:1-2 "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." (NKJV)

- Conflict in our lives:
 - We can all recognize that we live in struggle and conflict this side of eternity, the obvious relationships of friendship and family garner our focus.
 - But a deeper dive into our heart, mind, and soul can reveal that the real villain in our story is really ourselves.
 - We are at war with ourselves, which by its very conflict, pits us against our creator, God.
 - We wage war and remain out of balance until the moment when we wave the white flag and our hearts to the Cross!
 - We bring all our shame, hurt, pain, wounding, disappointment, and place in the river grace, the river of LIFE that flows from Calvary.
 - We let the healing waters flood and wash over us, covering us bringing refreshment, renewal, and restoring our eternal union with God the Father.
- Staff Leadership Class – "Who do you most relate to in the Bible i.e., their story, how they write etc.?" It is PAUL for me.
- Why Paul? Because of how he models what is available to all of US in the transformed (exchanged life) via the Cross.
 - After his salvation, Paul filters everything thru the lens of Calvary.
 - The Cross remains at the forefront and focus of his teachings.
 - Paul was in love with the Cross of Christ.
 - Paul understood that the Cross of Calvary did not *humiliate* but rather *glorified* our Messiah. Colossians 2:15
 - The Cross is EVERYTHING!

“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. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God’s glory.” (NLT)

Therefore, since we have been justified [that is, acquitted of sin, declared blameless before God] by faith, [let us grasp the fact that] we have peace with God [and the joy of reconciliation with Him] through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed). Through Him we also have access by faith into this [remarkable state of] grace in which we [firmly and safely and securely] stand. Let us rejoice in our hope *and* the confident assurance of [experiencing and enjoying] the glory of [our great] God [the manifestation of His excellence and power]. (AMP)

JUSTIFIED - is that gracious and *judicial* act of God whereby a soul is granted complete absolution from all guilt and a full release from the penalty of sin (Romans 3:23-25). This act of *divine grace* is wrought by *faith* in the merits of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1).

- **John 1:12-13** “But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.” (NLT)
- The term is a translation of the Greek *dikaiōsis* (Latin: *justificatio*), originally a technical legal term derived from the verb “to make [someone] righteous.”
- **Romans 10:10** “For with the heart a person believes [in Christ as Savior] resulting in his justification [that is, being made righteous—being freed of the guilt of sin and made acceptable to God]; and with the mouth he acknowledges *and* confesses [his faith openly], resulting in *and* confirming [his] salvation.” (AMP)

PEACE – (*eirēnē* in the Greek) “freedom from disturbance, possessing tranquility or serenity, being free from persecution, obtaining harmony with God.”

- **John 14:27** “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” (NKJV)
- To find and maintain peace with God we must calibrate our hearts at Calvary. We find our center and harmony with the Kingdom of God here!
- In my opinion, we can’t find a cross big enough for this sanctuary.
- The carnal war we wage with God, in our flesh, begins and ends at the Cross, when we are willing to crucify ourselves with Christ and receive His free gift of LIFE and healing. It is here where true PEACE is found with God.

- Slavery and bondage to sin and the enemy's kingdom are severed, we are redeemed, washed in the healing, redeeming blood of Christ.
- It's at Calvary that we are marked as sons and daughters of living the God from His son's blood, wounds, agony, and anguish.

FAITH – (*pis'-tis* in the Greek) “a conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervor born of faith and joined with it. Secure in the character of one who can be relied on.”

- “Faith is being SURE of what you Hope for.....”
Hebrews 11:1
- “Don't dig up in doubt, what you have buried in faith.”
Elisabeth Elliot (missionary and widow of Jim Elliot)

HOPE – “is an optimistic state of mind that is based on an expectation of positive outcomes with respect to events and circumstances in one's life "expect with confidence for a positive outcome" and "to cherish a desire with anticipation." Wikipedia

- “Only in darkness can you see the stars.” Martin Luther King Jr.
- “A good Leader is a dealer of hope.” Napoleon Bonaparte
- **Hebrews 3:6** “But Christ, as the Son, is in charge, of God's entire house. And we are God's house, if we keep our courage and remain confident in our hope in Christ.” (NLT)

H = Hold
O = On,
P = Pain
E = Ends

- **Jeremiah 29:11** “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ says the LORD. ‘They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.’” (NLT)

GRACE – “the unmerited gift of the divine favor of God in the salvation of sinners thought Christ Jesus, and the divine influence operating in individuals for their regeneration and sanctification.”

- “*Grace is but glory begun and Glory is grace perfected.*”
Jonathan Edwards
- “*God's greatest glory is in His abundant grace.*”
Donald Grey Barnhouse

- *“Grace is the enabling Gift of God not to sin. Grace is Power not just a pardon.”*
John Piper
- **Hebrews 7:25** “Therefore He is able, once, and forever, to save completely those who come to God through Him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.” (NLT)

GLORY – “high praise, worship, magnificence, abundant majesty, honor in a most exalted state.”

- *“The glory of God always comes at the sacrifice of self.”*
A.W. Tozer
- *“The world is filled with God’s glory, you can’t turn around without bumping into it.”*
R.C. Sproul
- *“Our high and privileged calling is to do the will of God, in the power of God, for the glory of God.”*
J.J. Packer

“Our faith in Jesus transfers God’s righteousness to us and he now declares us flawless in his eyes. This means we can now enjoy true and lasting peace with God, all because of what our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, has done for us (on the Cross at Calvary). Our faith guarantees us permanent access into this marvelous kindness that has given us a perfect relationship with God. *What incredible joy bursts forth within us as we keep on celebrating our hope of experiencing **God’s glory!**” (TPT)*

When we live in peace and harmony with God, our desires should shift to bring Him glory and experience the glory of His kingdom both in and through our lives.

6 WAYS TO GIVE GOD GLORY:

1. **Confessing our Sin** - When we confess sin, we are putting on display His glory by declaring His righteousness. (Psalm 51:4)
2. **Forgiving Others** - When we forgive others, we are proclaiming His compassion and eagerness to forgive. Forgiving others puts His glory on display. We are never reflecting the image of God more than when we choose to forgive. (Micah 7:18-19, Matthew 6:14-15)
3. **Trusting God** – If God does all things for our good (and He does), then demonstrating our trust in Him puts His nature and character on display. We reflect who He is. (Psalm 3:5, Romans 4:20)

4. **Producing Fruit** – Living a life that adorns or furnishes God’s attributes puts His glory on display. (John 15:8)
5. **Giving Thanks** – Expressions of gratitude toward God sets His glory on a pedestal. (Psalm 50:23)
6. **Prayer** - Like giving thanks, prayer shines the spotlight on God’s attributes of goodness and omnipotence. (John 14:13, Psalm 50:15)

Professing with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord, that we are saved by God’s grace and mercy, it is here in this divine place that we encounter the eternal presence of our Father, and we are at PEACE with Him.

Benediction:

- **Titus 3:4-7** “But when the goodness *and* kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared [in human form as the Man, Jesus Christ], He saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we have done, but because of His own compassion *and* mercy, by the cleansing of the new birth (spiritual transformation, regeneration) and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out richly upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we would be justified [made free of the guilt of sin] by His [compassionate, undeserved] grace, and that we would be [acknowledged as acceptable to Him and] made heirs of eternal life [actually experiencing it] according to our hope (His guarantee).”
(AMP)