

Sermon Notes
Good News Church
Romans - The Righteous Will Live by Faith
Chapter 5 – “Peace with God”
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10-18-26

PRIMARY MESSAGE OF ROMANS

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: **“The righteous will live by faith.”** – Romans 1:17

THEMES

CH. 1-3 Depravity, Justice, and Grace

CH. 4-5 **Faith – Origins and Impact** (O.T. Reflections > Abraham and Adam)

PURPOSE

The primary purpose of today’s message from Romans 3 is to understand the resulting benefits of “justification by faith.”

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| 1. Peace with God (vs. 1-2) | 3. Poured out Love (vs. 5-11) |
| 2. Purpose in Suffering (vs. 3-4) | 4. Perfect Representation (vs. 12-21) |

TEXT (Romans 5:1-21) // CONTEXT: War with and rebellion against God

1. PEACE WITH GOD (vs. 1-2)

1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

2. PURPOSE IN SUFFERING (vs. 3-4)

3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.

- Perseverance produces character because we have no other choice.
- *“It’s tribulation that puts muscle on our souls.”* – R.C. Sproul
- *“Character produces hope by transforming raw endurance into a tested, confident trust in God’s faithfulness rather than self-reliance.”* – John Piper

3. POURED OUT LOVE (vs. 5-11)

5 And hope does not put us to shame (disappoint), because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

- **NO SHAME IN GOD’S GLORY** - Every single other thing that we put our hope in will involve shame or disappointment, at some point or another.
 - Favorite sports teams, favorite political party, etc. will all disappoint at some point.

- **GOD'S LOVE KEEPS US** - The thing that keeps us secure in God, is God.

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.** 9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! 11 Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

- We were powerless when we were saved. From what? God's wrath!
- Our boasting is not in ourselves, but in God. Why? Because HE DID IT!
 - "Where then, is boasting?... For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law." – Romans 3:27-28 (Jeremiah 9)
- I love how the NLT translation reads vs. 11... So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

4. **PERFECT REPRESENTATIVE** (vs. 12-21)

19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

2 ADAMS - Adam and Jesus.

- The first Adam's sin brought death and condemnation to all, while the second Adam's obedience brings justification and life (as explained in Romans 5:12-19).
- For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. – 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Q: Is it fair to be judged based on the merit of a representative rather than being judged on my own individual merit?

INDIVIDUAL vs. REPRESENTATIVE

- **Individualism**
 - **Appealing** because it seems to give us control of our own destiny.
 - **Unrealistic** because we are all affected by the decisions and actions of others
- **Representative (Federalism)**
 - **Appealing** because it gives the opportunity for victory despite our losing performance.
 - **Realistic** in that we see this taking place everywhere we look (i.e., sports teams and championship rings, political leaders and countries, parents and children, companies and stock, etc.).

- **Bible** – Noah (righteous) and his family, Achan (unrighteous) and his family, David (victory over Goliath attributed to Israel)

Natural Reaction: No fair! I didn't choose Adam to represent me!

GOOD NEWS

Because we were first represented by Adam, we can now also be represented by Christ

The primary question for you and for me is who will be our representative before God – Adam or Jesus? NOTE: If we say we want to represent ourselves, we are choosing Adam (because he is our perfect representative).

"There are 3 great transfers:

1. Adam's guilt to us. IMPUTATION
2. Our guilt to Jesus.
3. Jesus's righteousness to us. IMPUTATION

If you think #1 is unfair, look at #3." - Matt Smethurst

CONCLUSION

There is an election coming up in a few weeks (as Jackie Smith reminded us of last Sunday).

NOTE: *There are 25 million unregistered, Christ-centered voters! Early voting is happening now, so be sure to get out, register, and vote!*

As we think about electing officials to represent us in government, that coincides perfectly with our spiritual reality of "representation." **Adam is our perfect representative because he is the one that, in our sin nature, we would have chosen.** Yes, we are sinners by nature because of Adam. It's very difficult to understand, but in eternity, our actions and Adam's actions are not linear. We may not have been the ones to sin in the garden, but Adam would have been our choice.

The good news of the gospel is that while we were choosing our sinful representative, the first Adam, God was choosing our sinless representative, not the one that we wanted but the one that we needed, and that representative was the second Adam... Jesus Christ.

When we understand that the Church is the Bride of Christ, we will appreciate this quote from R.C. Sproul, that I'll end with. *"The first Adam said, 'Don't blame me, blame my wife.' The second Adam said, 'Don't blame my wife, blame me.'"* - R.C. Sproul

Just as Adam's sin (that we did not commit) was imputed to us, because of God's grace through faith, Jesus Christ's perfect righteousness (that we did not deserve or earn) was also imputed to us. And as a result, **vs. 1 ... "since we have been justified (freely by His grace, 3:24) through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."**

The war with God is over! We will NEVER, ever be enemies of God again but will ALWAYS be known as beloved sons and daughters of God, through Jesus Christ.

And THAT'S Good News!