

Title: God's Own Love

Text: Romans 5:1-11

Would you take your Bibles, please, and open them to Romans chapter 5. Romans chapter 5 verses 1-11. We want to look, today, at the wonderful results that our ours because we have been declared righteous by faith in Jesus Christ. There are notes in your bulletin, and I would encourage you to follow along with me as we study God's Word together.

(Read Romans 5:1-11)

PRAYER

(2B) We are looking at the principle of JUSTIFICATION...or, the act by which God pronounces us righteous. (1C) We noticed, first of all, that justification depends upon the work of Jesus Christ. (2C) Then in chapter 4 we saw it as described in the life of Abraham. And Romans chapter 4 was a wonderful portion of scripture when you realize how God rewarded Abraham according to faith, and faith alone. *Abraham believed the impossible, and God Reward that faith*

(3C) Now, in chapter 5, we want to look at the blessings which accompany justification. This is another exciting portion of scripture as we learn, again, what wonderful things have happened because we have simply believed God. We believe that Jesus is the saviour. And some great things have happened. And in Romans chapter 5 verses 1 thru 11, three wonderful things that happen to us are mentioned.

(1D) Number one, Verses 1 and 2 tells us of the provisions that we have in our salvation if we would only believe. Two provisions are mentioned.

(1E) Number one, peace with God. ~~(2E) And number two, access to God.~~

~~(1E) In the matter of peace with God, I notice, first of all, that~~

According to Vs 1 it says that "we have this". It is a present possession.

~~The same thing is said in Vs 2. We have an introduction or access.~~

It is not the verb "to have peace". It is simply the verb "to have." And peace is the object. It means that presently in my life, a present possession of my life, is having...holding on to...peace and access.

Now, a lot of people want peace. We are not talking, here, about peace of mind, or the 'feeling' that we often call peace. That is not what he is talking about.

The phrase "with God" means "towards God". Means "we were against him." And there has been truce signed. Like to armies that are fighting one ~~on~~ other. ~~Truce has been signed. Peace has been made.~~ *Truce has been signed. Peace has been made.* That is the peace with God.

We are enemies with God. We are going our own way. We are self-centered selfish. ~~Now~~ *But we received Jesus as Lord* there has been a truce. *There is peace*

But remember: the terms were all God's. And peace happened because God did it. And all he ask us to do is to believe ~~it.~~ *in Jesus* And the moment we believe *in Jesus* we have been declared righteous. And we have now "peace" towards God. It is settled. *Please God*

Now, the Bible does teach that there is another kind of "peace" that arises out of this. In Philippians 4: 6-7 it says that the peace of God will keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. The peace of God, meaning "that which God has" and he gives it to you. Jesus said, "my peace I leave with you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart ~~be~~ troubled. Neither let it be afraid."

And ~~there~~ there is the abiding peace that keeps away the fear that brings torment to us. But, that is not what He is talking about here in Romans 5. He is just talking about peace with God. Settling the ~~relationship~~ relationship between ourselves and the Lord. And it is all based on faith in Jesus Christ.

(2b) Now, the second thing that we have in this wonderful provision of our SALVATION, is in Vs 2. We have ^{an introduction} access. And the word means "to lean towards" You see, the whole nature of our life is to lean away from God. And the Bible says that when God pronounces you righteous by faith it leans you towards God.

*Prone To Leave
The God of Love*

The song ~~writer~~ ^{writer} says: Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,... Our ^{our} nature is away from God. But when you are pronounced righteous by God, when by faith you believe what Christ has done, the whole direction of your life then changes. And now you have ^{an introduction} access. Or, you lean towards God.

And we have this introduction into two areas -
~~And there are two things according to this verse that we have access.~~

(1F) Number one, we have ^{an introduction} access into "this grace in which we stand."

Now, the word "stand" is in the perfect tense. Meaning: that we have come to stand there. And we are presently standing there. And nothing can change it. It is settled. It is all over. *We are standing in God's Wonderful Grace*

Now, watch it. ~~When~~ ^{When} you accept Christ you are led into the sphere of God's grace. God's grace just surrounds you. And you have now come to stand there. It is a position that you have in the Lord. Nothing can change it. You see, you are now a constant receiver of God's grace. And it securely protects you.

Dr. Charles Sprugeon, a great preacher of the last century, wrote a little book entitled "TRIUMPHAL GRACE". A whole series of messages on just the word "grace". And in this book he describes how the grace of God sustains you in times of physically needs. Sustains in times of great trail.

Now, everything we receive is the result of God's grace. But the thing that excited me about this verse is that I am standing, right now, in the middle of it all. And so are you if you know the lord. No matter what is happening,...You see, grace gives to us what we don't deserve. And the Bible says that we are standing there, fixed there, right in the grace of God That is exciting. You see, grace is constantly what God wants to do for you. And it is exciting to know that you are standing there in the midst of constant giving on the part of God.

Just constant giving in that grace, that wonderful grace of the Lord.

(2F) ^{secondly} ~~The second thing he says is that we have access into the grace, and also~~ ^{We have an introduction so that}
we exult in hope of the glory of God. ~~Your KJ says "rejoice in hope".~~

Literally it says "upon hope". Meaning: "resting upon hope." Your faith is resting upon what kind of a hope? ^{The hope of} ~~OF~~ THE GLORY OF GOD.

It is talking about the future. In Colossians it says that Christ who is our light, when he appears, we will appear with him in glory.

In Romans 8:30 it says what we will one day be glorified. The Bible speaks of our future as being "glory."

^{The Angles sang at the birth of Christ: "Glory to God in the highest"}
~~going to come to all believers.~~ And Paul says that because of faith in Christ you are now rejoicing upon hope of the glory of God.

In other words, what it really takes to keep going in this messy world of ours is to realize that one day we are going to be in glory. It might be bad on earth. But one day it is going to be glory. And Paul says "I recognize that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us."

That should ~~excite~~ excite you if you feel a little dead this morning. Glory in the Lord because of the glory that He gives to us. And the Bible says that we have access, we are being lead towards the glory of God in the future. Simply because we believe that J.C. died on the cross. Fantastic.

(2D) Now, beginning with Vs 3, let's look at the wonderful prospect that we have of salvation. And there are two things that I want you to see here.

(1F) Number one, we see this in daily experience, as believers. That this hope that we have in the Lord is going to affect us in daily life. [If]

^{want to give you}
~~you want~~ a little three point formula for being really happy in life,

~~here~~ It is right here in these verses: Vs 3 and 4....A little three point formula on how to be happy regardless of what is happening in your life

If you are a believer, and you know what is going to happen to you in the future, this is going to be a blessing to you right now.

Three things.....

(1^R) Number one, rejoicing in tribulation. Look at that carefully. In Vs 3 "and not only this, but also exult in our tribulations" Rejoicing in tribulations. The word "exult" means "rejoicing." Paul said "rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice." *Rejoicing in Tribulation*

Now, we have two ways that we get around admitting what Paul said here. And I want to show what it is. Look at it carefully here.

Some times we say this: We ~~we~~ rejoice inspite of our ~~tribulations~~ tribulations. Have you ever heard people say that? I ^{do} all the time. "Well, I know that I am suffering, but in spite of all that, praise the Lord..." You know...

And some times we even like to talk about our suffering. "Boy, if you only knew what I am going through. But, in spite of all that, praise the Lord anyway..."

That is not what Paul is saying here in Romans 5.

There is another way we handle this. We say, "I rejoice in the midst of my tribulations.".....That is a neat one. It is a little bit more mature than the other one.

Now, what we mean in this second example is: "I know there is a lot of trouble and tests in my life. But right here in the midst of it I have perfect peace." That is great. But, that is not what ~~he~~ ^{Paul} is saying here in Romans 5.

It is wonderful to have peace and rest and joy in the midst of tribulation all around you. To say I have perfect peace. That is great. Praise the Lord, you ought to.

But that is not what he is saying here! He is saying to praise the lord for the tribulations themselves.....To rejoice in them...to exult in tribulations.....You know, like saying when some bad thing happened in your life, "Boy, I am so excited, I suffered this morrowning.".....(phone)

It sounds wired, doesn't it?....Sure it does....It goes right accross our ^{our} old nature. PRAISE THE LORD! I HAVE TESTING!

Do you have testing this morrowning? OH, you don't. Boy, I feel sorry for you....

It is sort-off the reverse attitude of what we usually hear. Some body is going through a trail and we say, "Oh, isn't that alfull. I wonder what they did to deserve that?"

Listen, ~~we~~ if we really got what we deserved. All heaven would break forth in judgment upon us.

^{No!}
~~Know~~ that is not the point at all. Rejoice in ~~tribulation~~ tribulation. You know, this could change your whole life, right now. Right now, it could change your whole life.

Paul said, "I take glory in my tribulation. For then the power of Christ will rest upon me(2 Cor 12:9-11)...

You see, the power of Christ is ~~not~~ seen in people who are rejoicing in spite of....or..in the midst of ^{tribulation} ~~them~~. But ~~only in them~~. That is when the unbelieving world will say, "Hay, there is something different about you."

Have you ever wondered why people don't see that Christians are different? Because Christians keep emphasizing the wrong things.

• An example is: how we look or appear.....Any non-believer can program himself that way just as much as a believer....

Another example is..by the things we don't do.....If we don't do certain things we assume that the world will be impressed that we are Christians...No!....They don't get the message that way either. Because there are non-christians who do the same thing. They avoid certain evils. That is not what makes the difference.

What makes the difference is the attitudes, the responses, the reactions which are truely Christ living his life in us. When we conform to these then people say, "Hay, what makes him so wired....TO SIT THERE AN REJOICE IN TRIBULATIONS! TO THANK GOD AND ACTURALLY COVET TRAILS....

Do you really want to suffer? Do you?....Rejoice in tribulations.

(2F) Now, the second part of this formula. ^{To} Realize the purpose that God has in mind for you. Realize the purpose that God has in mind.

According to Vs 3 and 4, "we rejoice in tribulations, knowing that brings about perseverance(or patience), and perserverance, proven character."

You see, all these little things that are happening to ^{you} God is trying to produce ^{in your life} patience.

Now, I don't know ^{all the things that are going on in your life} where ~~all of you work or what all of you do~~, but I know that God wants all of us to be patient. And I know that one of the things that all of us need is patience. Man, we need patience at work, in the family, with the kids. ^{in church} Patience...Just thinking about it drives me batty....But God wants ^{us} ~~you~~ to be patient.

Now, you must understand why God wants ^{us} you to be patient. He wants ^{us} you to be patient so that it will produce ~~experience~~ ^{experience} or character(NAS)

The Greek word that is translated "~~experience~~" or "character" means "a life that has been tested and now approved."

^{it says} The ~~NAS~~ has "proven character". And I like that. A life that has been tested is a life that God can use. So we must have testing. We must have tribulation. ^{But} ~~so~~, realize God's purpose. He gives you patience. And ~~patience~~

patience is ^{one of the characteristic} ~~the only thing~~ that can make you mature. ^{Just} James said ~~to~~

~~to~~ ^{to} count it all joy when you come into various testings. Because testings or the trying of your faith produces patience. And let patience have ^{for} ~~let~~ mature work." That you may be mature. Wanting nothing! Fantastic. So, ^{Depends} ~~we~~ realize the purpose that God has ^{in tribulations}

(3F) Now, here is the third part of that little formula Which indicates that the prospect that we have in the Lord works in daily experince.

3 F Number three...resting...Resting in the hope we have in the Lord. According to Vs 4 the experience is working or producing HOPE. Hope... Rest now in the Lord. Because you know that all the ~~bad~~ ^{bad} ~~traits~~ you have in this life, as bad as they ~~are~~, God says that one day you will be rewarded, "Our affliction is but for a moment, works for us a far more weight of ^{eternal} glory."

Did you get that? Our affliction, right now, is ^{but} for a moment. As compared to a weight of eternal glory.

^{as Paul said,} Don't look at the things that are seen. Look at the things that are not seen. If we suffer, we will reign.....Tremendous...'

So, all those ~~w~~xperience we have in our life, because of the prospect of our salvation we have hope in the glory of God. Therefore, all this experience and testing ^{Produces} ~~and~~ patience ^{which produces} ~~produces~~ hope. More confidence.

"Why, if only in this world do we have hope" Paul said, "we of all men are most miserable."....Praise the Lord! We have something better than that. We are going to be with the Lord one day. *Praise God!*

(2F) But not only this prospect of our salvation is seen in daily experience, ~~but it~~ ^{and} produces and expectation that cannot be shaken. ~~Look at vs 5..~~

~~There~~ ^{Salvation} are two reasons why it cannot be shaken. ~~It~~ produces a wonderful expectation in the life of the believer because he knows he is going to be with the Lord. And there are two things that make that unshakable.

Vs 5.."and hope does not disappoint" This means that it is never embarrassed. "because"...and here are the two facts...(1F) One, "the love of God has been poured out within our hearts"....In other words, the Love of God is in you.

You know, I thought about that a great deal in just realizing that God loves me in the things that happen in my life. He loves me. That is why he is letting them happen....PRAISE THE LORD!

Who wants to be left alone by God? Some people ask: "Why is God causing this in my life"? Well, because he loves you. He is not punishing you, as many say. It is for your own maturity and growth...PRAISE THE Lord.... It is happening because God wants it to happen. Expectancy because the love of God is in us.

I know that God loves me. And what he is causing, like a loving Father is what I need.

(2F) and number two, the life of God is in me in the person of the Holy Spirit. Vs 5 says "the Holy Spirit has been given to us." And He is shedding ~~abroad~~ in our hearts that love of God.

~~The Holy~~ ^{I know that God} spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. I know that I belong to God because the Holy Spirit is within me.

met If a person comes up to me and tries to shake my confidence in the second coming of the Lord, is going to have a hard time. Because I know that God loves me. And I have that assurance through the Holy Spirit.

(30) Now, *This brings us to* ~~let's look for a moment at~~ the person of our salvation. The one who made it all possible. Two principles here.

(1F) In Verse 6 to 8 I want you to look for a moment at *God's* his love for us. His wonderful love for us. And two things stand out in my mind in these verses, about his wonderful love.....(READ VS 6-8)...

(1F) First of all, that love was in spite of our condition. Our condition is discribed in these verses as being "helpless"... "ungodly". We cared nothing about God. We go our own way. And yet *d* God still loves us. So, in spite of your condition, God loves you.

Now, I don't know what is wrong with you this morrowing. I know what is wrong with me. But I know that God loves *us!* He loves *us* in spite of *our* condition.

out I remember a man who was so burden down with his own sin. It just weighted heavenly upon him. And then I remeber the joy that came over him when he realized that God love him just like he was.

Oh, friends, with all of *you* sin...God still loves *us*. You see, His love is not dependent upon your response. That is kind-off wonderful, isn't it?....He loves *you* in spite of what *you* may do for him.. He still loves *you*.

Vs 6 "For while we were still helpless". That means we had no ability to do anything ~~for~~ God. God knows that. ~~And~~ *yet* He still loves us.

Then the word "ungodly"...You know, all the alfull things we do. All those things we think and plan and say. BUT PRAISE THE LORD. GOD STILL LOVES US....He still loves us.

(2F) Then in Vs 7, ~~He lays it on us. Here~~ we see a great contrast. He loves us in spite of our condition. And then he shows us this great ~~contrast~~ contrast to prove it.

In Vs 7 we read "For one will hardly die for a righteous man"... But it is possible. You know it just might happen. "Perhaps for a good man someone would dare to die"...You know, under the right condition you just might be willing to die for a good man.....

There are examples throughout history of people who have deminstrated such love. But now look at Vs 8.....

"But God"...Meaning totally different from Vs 7..."demonstrates His own love towards us, while we were yet sinners."

Do you see the great contrast?.....I mean for a "righteous" or a "good" man" one just might die. It is rare. But there are a few examples. Someone giving his or her life for someone else. Someone who has done a wonderful thing. *Fireman dying in fire to save life of a baby*

But, you don't see people dieing for people who don't care, and are sinner. People who are selfish and go there own way.

(SOMETHING) But God loved us so much that in spite of what we are, Christ died for us. You know, friends, there is only one ~~reason~~ *reason* why Christ died for our sins. Only one ~~reason~~ *Reason*...PURE...DIVINE LOVE. The kind of love that loves without any thought of return. *(Quote John 3:16)*

And I remaind all the husbands, even though I am not speaking about marriage, but I remaind you that it is that same love that we are to show to our wifes. Paul wrote in Ephesians "Husbands love your wife as Christ loved the church and what?.....Gave himself for her.....That is divine love.

(2E) Now, in Verse 9 to 11, Paul teaches that ~~his~~ *Christ's* life is in us .. And as a result there are three ~~wonderful words~~ *Christ's* wonderful words in Vs 9, 10, and 11 which discribe ~~God's~~ *Christ's* life in us.

- (1F)* Number one, is the word "justified."
- (2F)* Number two the word "saved"
- (3F)* And number three the word "reconciled."

Justified.....Saved.....reconciled.... because of ~~God's~~ *Christ's* life in us. And ~~because~~ *The Result* of Christ death on the cross *and His resurrection*

Now, first of all, "justified"..... Now, just say it right out loud. According to Vs 9 we are justified how?....."BY HIS BLOOD"....

We are justifeid by his blood, It was a righteous act of God at the cross which we *must* believe *in order to be saved* And the moment we believe what ~~God~~ *Christ* did on the cross we are declared righteous....HOW?.....by his blood. *Christ*

According to Ephesians 1:7 that blood granted us forgiveness of all our sins....I John 1:7 says that the blood ~~of~~ *of* Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin....

(2) Then secondly, we have the word "saved"...A simply little illustration.

A life guard down at the beach notices that someone is drowning. If he is saving him, he is saving him from drowning. But, also, he is saving him to live again....Those are the two aspects of salvation. And we see them

both here. Vs 9 says "saved from the wrath of God". In the Greek text you

have "THE WRATH". It is not just saved from angry because we are all receivers of peoples angry and wrath. But it is saved from a particular

kind of wrath. Which is the wrath of God at the great Judgement. The

white throne judgement that God will put on all ^{people} ~~men~~ because they refused

Christ and have stayed in their sin. According to the Bible, the moment

you accept Christ you are saved from ^{God's} ~~that~~ wrath. There is no wrath any

more...No judgment, no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.

But, we are not only saved from the wrath, but according to the end of Vs 10 we are saved "by" or "in his life."

You see, I am saved to live eternally because God's life is in me. I am going to live forever. It is not something that God is going to give me after I die.

Now, I say this so often. But, friends, do you really understand that most people do not believe this? Even if they think there is some type of life after death, it is only life after death. That is what they think ^{we} you christians mean by ~~eternal life~~ eternal life, you see.

But, the Christian says..."I have ^{Christ} God living in my life now. I have ~~eternal life~~ eternal life right now."...And that is what the Bible teaches. We have eternal life, now...Present tense....WHY? Because ^{Christ} ~~God~~ is in us.

And that is exciting. ^{Why?} Because when you get down, and things are not going right, just remember that you are an eternal being. And you ^{have Christ} ~~are~~ going to live forever....

And I think that is a good perspective, also, as you get to the twilight of your earthly existence. Remember that it is not the end. It is just the beginning. We are going to live with ^{you} God forever. We have been saved into his life.....PRAISE THE LORD.

(3) Then, the third word is the word "reconciled". What does that mean?

Well, according to Vs 11, it should cause great joy in the Christian. And not only this, but we also ^{EXULT} ~~joy~~ in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation."

The word simply means this: "TO RESTORE BACK TO A FORMER CONDITION"... To restore back to a former condition. That is what the word means.

Here is the application. Before Adam and Eve sinned, when they were in the Garden of Eden, they were in the kind of condition and relationship that God wanted.... Fellowship with God...

And when Adam sinned He fell from that position. And in the cross of Christ, man has been restored back to that former condition. Like Adam ^{and Eve} ~~was~~ in the garden.... FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD...

Now, refresh your minds for a moment. What was it like in Adam's day, before he sinned.... IT WAS PARADISE... FANTASTIC....

The Bible says that they walked in the garden in the cool of the day, they talked with the Lord.... And God answered them and spoke to them.... They walked with the Lord, literally, in that beautiful paradise.... They had wonderful fellowship. [In fact, the thing that happened when they sinned was that they hid themselves from the Lord. *I have seen that*

happen: You know, when people sin they go away from the presence of the Lord.

Because people know, down deep, that they are accountable to God. And God does know what is happening. So, we sin and we try to hid from the Lord...

~~But, the pattern of one who~~ ^{is} ~~was~~ believed in Christ is that he has been restored back to the former condition of fellowship with God. Of being in His presence. In the presence of a personal God who loves you .. And he gave his son to die on a cross for your sins... *Tremendous*

blessings to those who have been saved.

Let's close in a word of prayer

Thus it is so, and it will continue to be so until Jesus comes again

I hope you know Christ, Today. IF you don't, I hope you will ask

him to come into your life. You have so much to gain if you do.

The Bible says that whosoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved -