Justified By Faith

Jesse LaRue · Romans 5:1–21

INTRODUCTION

- In chapters 1, 2, and 3, Paul has proved his point. He has proved that the whole world is guilty before God, that no one can be saved by keeping the law, that we are justified by faith.
- He explains two basic truths that the blessings of our justification in verses 1 through 11 and the basis for our justification in verses 12 through 21.

1 We Have Peace With God

Romans 5:1; Romans 3:23

- Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Before we were justified, we did not have peace with God. We were in a very poor state. We were, in fact, at enmity with God.
- We should be lost. We should be condemned. We should not be justified, and yet he has removed our sin and our guilt from us.

2 Access by Faith Into This Grace in Which We Stand

Romans 5:2

- Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand.
- It is through Christ alone that we can have access. How is it we get that access? By faith, he says.
- We're standing in his grace, that means that is where we live. That is where we abide. We are firmly established in it.

3 We Rejoice in Hope and in Our Sufferings

Romans 5:3–5; Romans 8:35–39; 1 Peter 1:7

- If it wasn't for Christ's sacrifice, if it wasn't for God's grace, we would have no hope.
- Trials work for us, not against us. No amount of suffering can separate us from the Lord.
- The more like Christ I become, the more I become sure of the fact that I will indeed see him one day.
- How often is our heart just a thimble and not a vast lake in our receptivity of the things that God wants for us.

4 While We Were Still Weak, Christ Died for the Ungodly

Romans 5:6; Romans 5:7–8

- While we were still weak, while we were powerless, while we were hopeless, Christ died for the ungodly.

- He didn't die for the godly. There were no godly.
- We cannot ever overstate how weak and powerless we indeed are in comparison to him.
- But God shows his love for us, and that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- He sent his child to die. We need to see the magnitude of his sacrifice, the magnitude of his love.

5 Reconciled to God by the Death of His Son

Romans 5:9–11; James 4:4; Ephesians 2:11–19

- We have been justified by his blood. We have been pronounced free of guilt.
- But because of sin, that friendship was broken. That pure relationship was defiled. We were no longer his friends.
- We can be reconciled, brought back together, be friends again, because Christ broke down that wall of hostility that stood between us.
- His death reconciled us, his resurrection, his life, gives us life.

6 The Basis for Our Justification

Romans 5:12; Romans 5:18–19; Romans 5:20–21

- Just as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, so death spread to all men because all sin.
- It's not that we can put all that blame on Adam. We can't. We've got to blame ourselves too.
- Through one man came a problem, and through one man the problem was fixed.
- But where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.
- The power of the grace of God towers vastly over the power of sin and of Satan. Satan cannot win.

THE CHALLENGE

If you're here tonight and you are not a Christian, understand that it is through baptism that one who has faith in Christ can put on Christ for the remission of one's sins.

MY NOTES