

Right in God's Sight

Studies from the Book of Romans

Lesson 6

Romans 5:1–21

Romans 5:1–5

Faith Triumphs in Trouble

Paul brings us to a turning point in chapter 5 as if to say to his readers, “Let’s hit the pause button for a moment and take a deep breath and consider the practical benefits belonging to those who believe and receive the gospel.” Everything that Paul has stated up to this point has amounted to theological information and instruction. He presented the fact that all the world has sinned but that sinful human beings can be declared righteous in God’s sight by accepting the free gift of salvation offered through the sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ on their behalf.

Now Paul will present the benefits of salvation, the blessings the gospel produces in the lives of everyone who receive its message by faith.

Read Romans 5:1–21.

Paul’s summary statement of all that has come before is profoundly acknowledged here in verse 1: “*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*” Paul’s use of the word “we” instead of “you” or “they” (which occur seventy-seven times in the first four chapters of Romans) signifies that from here on he is speaking to those who *have been justified*—those who are believers in Christ.

Having *peace with God* means much more than realizing feelings of security or maintaining a right state of mind. In The Message translation of verse 1, it reads: “*By entering through faith into what God has always wanted to do for us—set us right with Him, make us fit for Him—we have it all together with God because of our Master Jesus.*”

1. Consider how *having it all together with God* means being at peace with Him. Please elaborate on what this includes for you.

The only way to experience true peace in this world is by becoming right with God. It’s impossible to have the *peace of God* without having *peace with God*. It is the first benefit of salvation.

2. Closely following peace with God, what is the next benefit that flows into the believer’s life? v. 2

The relationship between you and God because of Christ means not only that you are justified in His sight, but that you also have personal unhindered access to Him at all times!

3. What comes with this access according to the following verses?
 - a. Ephesians 3:12
 - b. Hebrews 4:16
 - c. How does this knowledge encourage you to pray?
4. What is the third benefit of your salvation also mentioned in verse 2?

The *hope* Paul speaks of here is the confident joyful anticipation of sharing in the full glory of God one day. It is a hope that is based on the promises in Scripture, one that should convey an eager expectancy, a reason to rejoice because you're a believer.

5. Look up and summarize the verses below to aide in your understanding.
 - a. Colossians 1:27
 - b. 2 Corinthians 4:16–18
 - c. 2 Timothy 2:10

Look Closer . . .

Before Jesus went to the cross, He prayed to the Father for Himself, for His disciples, and for all believers. Spend a little time reading through His prayer for you in John 17:20–26. Share what He prayed about you and His glory. Knowing that your heavenly Father answers every prayer that the Son prays, how does this strengthen your hope for the future?

6. What is another benefit of your salvation that Paul mentions in verse 3a?

Paul states that the reason you can glory in tribulations is because of the fact that God's love for you is great enough to take everything that comes your way and turn it to the good in your life!

- a. According to Paul, what does *tribulation* produce? v. 3
- b. What does *perseverance* produce? v. 4
- c. What does *character* produce? v. 4

The supernatural development of perseverance (endurance) that results in the formation of character that is pleasing to God, also serves to fasten our attention on our hope—the joyful anticipation of the full experience of our salvation that is laid up for us in heaven.

7. When your hope is in God, what are you promised? How is it fulfilled? v. 5

- How can you be certain of your hope? See 2 Corinthians 1:21–22.

Memory Verse: “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

Word Wealth:

Using the resources you have on hand (i.e., additional Bible translations, dictionary, Bible dictionary, concordance, etc.), write a definition for the words below.

peace (5:1) _____

access (5:2) _____

tribulation (5:3) _____

perseverance (5:3) _____

reconciled (5:10) _____

Romans 5:6–11 The Greatness of God’s Love

Read Romans 5:1–11 for review. Read verses 6–11 through a second time, inserting your name in each instance where Paul uses the pronoun “we.” Then take a closer look at this passage from a *personal* perspective.

For Group Discussion . . .

1. Provoked by a love that surpasses human limits, when did Christ come to die for *you*? How does this revelation affect *your* perspective today?

2. From what have *you* been saved because of His blood that was shed? Does this knowledge motivate *you* to make any changes in your life—if so, what are they?

3. If God’s love for *you* motivated His sacrifice while *you* were still a sinner, imagine what *you* can expect now that *you* are reconciled to Him! Please share your thoughts.

4. What should be *your* response to God’s amazing grace that has brought about *your* complete reconciliation with Him?

Romans 5:12–21

Grace Wins Hands Down!

*“Here it is in a nutshell: Just as one person did it wrong and got us in all this trouble with sin and death, another person did it right and got us out of it. But more than just getting us out of trouble, **he got us into life!** One man said no to God and put many people in the wrong; one man said yes to God and put many in the right.”*

Rom. 5:18-19 The Message

Read Romans 5:12–21.

Paul had now finished his explanation of God’s provision of righteousness on the basis of the sacrificial death of His Son Jesus Christ received by faith. He has one object lesson remaining that will present the contrasts between Christ and Adam, revealing how the result of Christ’s saving work overcame the effects of Adam’s sin on the human race.

1. What entered the world through Adam and what resulted? v. 12
 - a. How did his actions affect the human race?

Adam’s sin caused every human being on earth to become guilty before God (Genesis 3) and the penalty was death. His sin caused everyone to be placed under the power of sin and to rebel against God. Thus, the human race lost peace with God.

Verses 13–14 state that sin entered the world through one act of Adam’s disobedience, which was then repeated in the actions of every human being thereafter *until* the Law was given to Moses. Paul previously stated, “*Where there is no Law there is no transgression*” (4:15). That does not mean that sin did not exist until there was the Law, but rather that it was not taken into account apart from the Law; it was not a transgression against it. Sin did exist because death reigned from the time of Adam until the time of Moses (v. 14).

2. How does Paul refer to Adam in verse 14?

Look Closer . . .

What else does Paul have to say about this in 1 Corinthians 15:45–49? Summarize the main point in your own words.

Adam was a prototype or representation of Christ, who was yet to come. Adam typifies the earthly natural man; all who followed him inherited his nature. Christ exemplifies the spiritual man and those who belong to Him will inherit His likeness.

In verses 12–14, Paul began relating the parallels between Adam and Christ. In verses 15–21, he will now elaborate in detail the contrasts of those parallels. In order to more easily understand the point Paul is making, a chart has been outlined for you below. Please fill in the answers where indicated.

Adam and Christ Contrasted

<u>One man – Adam</u>	<u>One Man – Christ</u>
v. 15 One man's offense (trespass) led to _____	One Man's gift led to _____
v. 16 The affect of one man's sin resulted in _____	The affect of one Man's free gift resulted in _____
v. 17 Through one man's offense _____ reigned.	Through one Man's gift _____ reigns.
v. 18 One man's offense brought _____ to all men.	One Man's righteous act brought _____ to all men.
v. 19 One man's disobedience made _____	One Man's obedience made _____
v. 21 Sin reigned in _____	Grace reigns to bring _____

The bottom line is highlighted for us in verse 20: the Law was given so that people would become aware of their sin, *"but where sin abounded, grace abounded much more."* What an amazing contrast! The entire human race lost peace with God as the result of one man's sin, but peace with God has been restored through one Man's gift of righteousness.

Selah . . .

What you have gained through Christ is much greater than what you lost in Adam. Think about the significance of Christ's grace reigning in your new life and the contrast to your old life. Please share your thoughts and close your time of study in prayer.

*"God cannot give us happiness and peace apart from himself, because it is not there.
There is no such thing."* C. S. Lewis

My Romans Road

Listen . . . Learn . . . Live . . . God's Truth!

Take a look back at this week's lesson. Briefly recap what you learned this week and how you intend to live it out.

1. What lesson in your study became real to you this week?

2. How do you intend to apply this lesson to your daily life?

Memory Verse:

Write down what you learned about God from this week's memory verse.

Write out the verse from memory.

Prayer Request:

Write out your most earnest prayer request and lift it to the Lord.

Notes

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal grey lines across its entire width, providing a guide for handwriting or typing. The paper itself is a clean, off-white color. There are no margins, text, or other markings present on the page.