



## The Benefits of Our Justification

### Romans 5:1-5

#### Introduction-

1. Many of us live the Christian life knowing about and trusting in the death of Christ, but not living in the full rights and privileges won for us at the cross. At the cross, Jesus purchased our justification....and so much more!

2. **Read Romans 5:1-5.** Up to this point, Paul has been laying out the case for our justification—how it is that sinners like us can be made right with God. In His death, Jesus took our sin and gave us His perfect righteousness. We receive this by faith.
3. If this was all that Jesus accomplished, it would have been enough. However, did you see the “more” that we have because of our justification in Christ? These verses describe several benefits of our justification.

#### **Justification→ Peace with God (v. 1b):**

1. Verse 1- In our justification we have peace with God. Because of our sin we were at enmity with God. We rebelled against Him in thought, word, and deed, and turned our backs on Him. Our relationship with God was broken beyond anything we could do to fix it.
2. God fixed this problem by sending a Savior. Through Jesus, He purchased our peace. Through the work of Christ on the cross, we now have peace with God.
3. Because we have peace with God, we can have peace with one another. It doesn't matter what's been done to me, I can forgive the greatest of offenses because of the forgiveness I've been shown. What's been done to us must flow through us!

#### **Justification→ Access into this grace (v. 2):**

1. Verse 2- In our justification we have access into His grace. Because of our sin we were cut off. Because of our rebellion we were standing on the outside with no way to enter back into relationship with God. But God provided a way. The sacrifice of Jesus on the cross brought us into peace with God. Because of that peace, we have access to Him.
2. Example—the most holy place of the temple.
3. You and I have access to God that Old Testament saints could not even imagine. Because of what Jesus did, there is no more curtain, no more veil, no more dividing wall. Does this make any difference in our lives?

#### **Justification→ Joy in suffering (v. 3-4):**

1. In v. 3-4, Paul introduces the idea of suffering. Paul knows that while we have these wonderful benefits, we also live in a broken world where pain and suffering are a part of our experience.
2. Yet, in this pain and suffering, Paul tells us we can have joy. Follow his line of thinking: suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope.
3. John Piper on suffering, *“Not only is all of your affliction momentary, not only is all your affliction light in comparison to eternity and the glory there, but all of it is totally meaningful! Every millisecond of your pain...in the path of obedience is producing a peculiar weight of glory you will get because of that. I don't care if it was cancer or criticism. I don't care if it*

*was slander or sickness. It wasn't meaningless! It's doing something! It's not meaningless! Of course you can't see what it's doing. Don't look to what is seen....Don't say it's meaningless! It's not. It's working for you an eternal weight of glory. Therefore, do not lose heart!"*

4. Do you know this hope? As you follow Jesus, your suffering, whatever it is, is not meaningless. God is over it, He is with you in it, He is using it, and the glory to come will be far greater because of it.

**Justification→ The love of God through the Holy Spirit (v. 5):**

1. Verse 5 tells us that through our justification, God's love has been "*poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.*"
2. God has not justified you with a cold, detached declaration that you are righteous in His sight. He has justified you in love.
3. This love is more than just a warm, fuzzy feeling. The love of God is a love where you are fully known AND fully loved. It is a love in which you are safe and secure, desirable and wanted. It is a love in which you are cared for and provided for. It is a love in which He is with you and will never leave you.
4. It is a love that grips the life of the one loved in such a way that they begin to love in that way. The love of God changes us. It moves us from self-centeredness to love, it moves us from fear to faith, and it moves us from passivity to activity. We are even willing to sacrifice in loving others because of the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

**Conclusion:**

1. Life and ministry are hard. As long as I know I am loved, I can move forward into anything. If you have been justified by faith, you---are---loved. You can move forward into anything. You have a sure hope in suffering. You have full access to God and you have peace with God.
2. To make sure we get all of this, God has given us His Spirit to communicate it to us. Jesus died to purchase these benefits for you. Go from here living in them.