

ADVENT–PEACE

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—December 10th, 2023

Romans 5:1

(ESV)

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

WHAT IS ADVENT?

- ‘advent’ = coming / arrival
- Advent is a season of waiting.
- As we remember the first coming of Christ, we remember he is coming again.
- Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and Christ.

Today we turn to the word PEACE.

INTRODUCTION

Peace depends on rest, and rest depends on labors being finished.

We can experience today the foretaste of the greater peace we’ll have one day with Jesus.

Hebrews 4:9–10—[9] So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, [10] for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

We experience the peace of Jesus when we stop trying to work to justify ourselves and believe in the work that Jesus has done for us.

THE MEANS OF JUSTIFICATION–FAITH

Romans 1:16-17—[16] For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. [17] For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Justification by faith is not only essential for the gospel; justification by faith is essentially the gospel.

“Justification by faith alone, is the hinge upon which the whole of Christianity turns.” –Charles Simeon

What is justification by faith?

Justification is a legal declaration of righteousness.

Faith is the means by which we receive this declaration of righteousness.

Romans 3:28–[28] *For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.*

A therefore is a word that points back to an argument previously made.

three major 'therefores' in Romans (5:1, 8:1, 12:1)

Everytime these 'therefores' appear, they point us back to the whole book.

The 'therefore' also points us back to the argument immediately before it.

Romans 4:25–[25] *who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.*

So, what is the basis for our justification?

Broadly, to believe in God's promises.
Specifically, to believe in the finished work of Christ.

THE BYPRODUCT OF JUSTIFICATION–PEACE

Justification by faith does not show us the way to peace with God; justification by faith grants us peace with God.

This world offers the appearance of peace, but Jesus offers real peace.

John 14:27–[27] *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*

Luke 2:10–*“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”*

Christ, through the gift of justification by faith, gives us peace by removing from us the fear of God's judgment.

Matthew 10:28–[28] *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.*

Romans 5:10–[10] *For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.*