

The Blessed Results of Justification
Romans 5:1-2
March 12, 2020

Review

Theme of Romans: The gospel _____ (1:16-17)

1:18-3:20 The universality of _____ (the universal need for the gospel)

3:21-4:25 The gospel (good news) as _____.

Chs 5-8 The gospel and the sure hope it gives

Three blessed results of justification:

1. Peace with God (1)

1 “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith...”

- Hinge between large sections

1 “...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Question: What is this peace? How does this peace relate to what Paul said earlier in Romans?

Peace was part of Paul’s greeting

- **1:7b** “Grace to you and **peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Peace “with God” is distinct from the peace “of God” (yet related)

- **Phil. 4:6–7** “do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Peace “with God” speaks of the state of one’s relationship with God, not so much a feeling of peace

Rather than having peace with God, the unbeliever is at enmity with God, and God’s wrath is upon him

- **5:10a**
- **8:7**

- **1:18** “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.”

- **Is. 48:18** “Oh that you had paid attention to my commandments!
Then your peace would have been like a river,
and your righteousness like the waves of the sea;”
- **48:22** “There is no peace,” says the LORD, “for the wicked.”

When a sinner is justified, he is given a relationship of peace with God

1. As a result of the perfect work of Christ, all the believer’s enmity has been dealt with, and God’s wrath has been removed from him

2. The believer no longer is offensive to the divine Judge, because all his sins have been paid for

3. God’s condemnation is no longer upon the believer

Justification re-establishes the communion with God that was broken by the fall

1 “...we have peace with God **through our Lord Jesus Christ.**”

- Through union with Christ in His death and resurrection

- **Is. 53:5** “But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was **the chastisement that brought us peace,**
and with his wounds we are healed.”

When the believer understands this truth, he can consequently feel at peace with God

2. Access into grace (2a)

Peace and “access” go together

- **Eph. 2:17–18** “And he came and preached **peace** to you who were far off and **peace** to those who were near. For through him we both have **access** in one Spirit to the Father.”

Pardon did not necessarily carry with it the right to come into the presence of king. It was dangerous to do so without permission.

Yet justification has not only taken away the enmity between God and the sinner. It has given the sinner access into the presence of God, who has given him grace and will continue to do so.

“access”

1. **NASB** “our introduction”
2. The idea of the Greek word “is that of introduction to the presence-chamber of a monarch. The rendering ‘access’ is inadequate, as it leaves out of sight the fact that we do not come in our own strength but need an ‘introducer’—Christ.”¹
3. We cannot go to God as we are, sinful, vile, and polluted. We have no right in our own name to enter. But Christ, who has access, who has dealt with our sins, whose righteousness we share, takes us in and presents us to God

“this grace”

“in which we stand”

- We cannot stand before God in our own works and character
Psa. 130:3–4 “If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, **who could stand?**
But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.”

Psa. 1:5 “Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;”

As a result of justification...

1. The believer stands secure in God’s grace
2. The believer has continuous access to the throne of grace (Heb 4:16)
3. God is smiling upon the believer (Num 6:25-26)
4. God accepts the believer, delights to see the believer coming to Him, and delights to bless the believer

The believer is no longer a guilty prisoner before the bar of the divine Judge

¹ William Sanday and Arthur C. Headlam in Leon Morris, *The Epistle to the Romans*, 219.

Because of the blessings of justification...

1. We can pray with confidence and boldness
2. We can have assurance of salvation

3. Hope of the glory of God (2b)

Question: What is this “hope of the glory of God”? Can you think of any verses later in Romans that relate to this?

We scorned God’s glory (1:21-23) and have fallen short of it (3:23).
Yet by divine grace, His glory is promised to us!

God has made it certain that the believer will...

1. See the glory of God
 - **Matt. 5:8** “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”
 - **Heb. 1:3a** “He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.”
 - **John 17:24** Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.
 - **1 John 3:2b** but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.
2. Be conformed to His glorious character
 - **Phil. 3:20–21** “But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”
 - **Rom. 8:29** “...predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son...”
 - Without being conformed to His glory, we would not be fit or able to stand the glory of God which shall be revealed to us

“we rejoice in hope”

- Here is something that cannot fail, just like Abraham’s hope (4:18)

Conclusion