

Romans 5:1-11
(Psalm 32:1-11; Luke 10:17-20)
“We Rejoice”

Introduction

Paul opens this chapter with a concise summary of the first four chapters of Romans, and an introduction to the rest of the book. He has shown us that neither race nor religion nor morality, nor anything else we might do, can ever make us right with a holy God. We are all separated from God by our rebellion and sin. But God, in mercy and love, has done what the law cannot do, by sending his Son in our place as an atoning sacrifice for sin, and the benefits of this great salvation are available to all who take God at his word and entrust themselves to his Son.

So Paul opens this chapter by summarizing all this: “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (5:1). The first half of the verse summarizes the first four chapters – we are justified by faith; and the second half introduces the rest of the book – we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Paul will now begin to unpack the meaning of our peace with God, this great *shalom* that is all-encompassing in its blessings and benefits to those who are in Christ through faith.

This morning, I hope to make clear that these verses invite us into a deeper apprehension of what it means to walk this out in daily life, as we learn to live in the land of grace, and to preach the gospel to our own hearts. What do I mean by this?

Body

1. Learning to live in the land of grace (5:2-5).

We rejoice in hope of the glory of God (5:2)

We rejoice in our sufferings, because they lead at last to hope (5:3-5)

2. Learning to preach the gospel to our own hearts (5:6-11).

I'm too weak to claim God's grace (5:6).

I'm too bad to claim God's grace (5:7-9).

I'm too far from God to claim his grace (5:10).

Conclusion

If God did all this for us while we were still his enemies, *how much more* will he fulfill his promises in us who are now brought near through the death and victory of his Son! So we “rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation” (5:11).

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