



MORE GRACE

6 February 2022

Romans 5:1-11

Psalm 73:24-28

Ephesians 3:1-13

Growing As Disciples in 2022

- Why so much focus on discipleship?
 - EVERY Christians is a disciple. You cannot be a Christian without being a disciple.
 - MANY who call themselves Christians believe that one can be a Christian without being a disciple.
 - We are living in a time when truth does not really matter.
 - ★ Very few are concerned with TRUTH today.
 - ☆ Jeremiah 9:3; Isaiah 59:4, 14; Jude 3; Hosea 4:1-3
 - ★ God's Word is TRUTH. What are you doing about it today? (John 17:17; Psalm 119:151, 142, 160; 1 John 2:3-4)
 - According to the God's Word, pastor/elders are responsible for:
 - ① Equipping the saints for the work of ministry (service). (Ephesians 4:11-12)
 - ② Till **we** all come to the unity of **the** faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God . . .
 - ③ To a PERFECT MAN (Body - the Church) . . .
 - ④ To the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:13)
 - ⑤ Warning the wicked (those who rebel against God's commandments) and . . .
 - ⑥ Warning the righteous (those who live on every word that comes from the mouth of God). (Ezekiel 3:16-21; Acts 20:26-27)
- Our Goals.
 - A DEEPER more INTIMATE relationship with God.
 - Glorify God in EVERYTHING we do.
 - Pursue holiness/piety.
 - BE CHURCH by God's definition.
 - Learn what the Gospel is according to God.
 - Be able to say, "Imitate me, just as I imitate Christ."
- Catechism & Memory Works (See Handout)

Golden Chain of Grace (Romans 8:28-30)

Preservation & Perseverance Grace

GRACE UPON GRACE UPON GRACE

Six Kinds of People

- ① "I am going to hell and I know it."
- ② "I am going to heaven and I know it for sure."
 - This is a person who has diligently examined him/herself by the Word of God and is striving to live the Christian life and can say, "Imitate me, just as I imitate Christ." (2 Corinthians 13:5; 2 Peter 1:5-10)
- ③ "I think I am saved but I am not sure."
- ④ "I am going to heaven and I know it for sure."
 - This is a person who has a personal testimony and does not diligently examine him/herself. They still live their lives on what they think is right and ignore much of the written word. They are not going to heaven.
- ⑤ "I do not know what you are talking about."
- ⑥ "All good people go to heaven. I am a good person."

Born Enemies of God (Ephesians 2:1-3)

→ Romans 5:10; 8:7; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Colossians 1:20-21

Therefore, Having Been Justified . . . (Romans 5:1)

- "having been justified" – Aorist tense (past tense); passive mood (something done to us not by us)
- Chapters 3 and 4 - Paul argued that salvation come by God's sovereign grace (Matt 20:15; Romans 9) through faith (it, too, a gift of God – Eph 2:8-10).
- Salvation does not come through "ceremonies" such as circumcision or baptism.
- Salvation does not come from "keeping" any kind of law.
- Salvation does not come through good works.
- Salvation is by GRACE ALONE. IT, from beginning to the end, is the work of God and God alone.
- This is not some theological argument to be debated. This is the TRUTH that God "breathed out" (2 Timothy 3:16-17) for us to **know**.

GRACE Upon GRACE

- Paul presents six certainties that secure our salvation in the grace of **God** and NOT in the works of man:

- ❶ Peace with God (v. 1)
- ❷ Standing in Grace (v. 2a)
- ❸ Hope of Glory (v. 2b-5a)
- ❹ Divine love (vv. 5b-8)
- ❺ Reconciled to God (vv. 9-10)
- ❻ Joy in the Lord (v. 11)

GRACE: Peace with God (Romans 5:1)

- Peace NOT “of” BUT “with” God (Romans 5:1)
- **TRUTH:** Apart from God’s transforming grace every human being is an enemy of God. (Romans 5:10; 8:7; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Colossians 1:20-21)
 - ★ Definition of “Enemy”: One who rebels against his/her Creator by ignoring His commands, unthankful, and not glorifying Him. (Rom 1:18; Eph 2:1-3) All unbelievers are enemies of God.
- God promises His wrath on His enemies - not His love! (Deut 32:41-43; Isaiah 1:24; 34:6-8; Nahum 1:2, 6; Romans 12:19; Heb 10:30; 1 John 2:3-4)
- God’s wrath, not His love, is upon unbelievers. (John 3:36; Rom 2:5-8; Eph 5:5-6; Col 3:5-6)
- God is angry with unbelievers every day. (Psalm 5:5; 7:11; Proverbs 6:16-19)

GRACE: Standing in Grace (Romans 5:2a)

- “**through whom**” – “whom” is Jesus Christ.
- “**we have access**” – προσαγωγή *prosagoge* {pros-ag-ogue-ay} “the act of bringing to”; “access to”; “approach to”
- This word is used three times in the NT and every time it speaks of having access to the Most Holy and High God. (Ephesians 2:18; 3:12)
- Jesus Christ is “the Door” (John 10:7, 9) and “the Way” (John 14:6) to God.
- Believers can approach the Most Holy God only because of the blood of Jesus. (See Hebrews 4:16; 10:19-22)
- “to this grace” – GRACE is something that is NOT EARNED by us. We became recipients of this grace only through the works of Jesus Christ. We did NOTHING to earn this grace.
- “in which we stand” – “to stand” is ἵστημι *histemi* {his'-tay-mee} signifies the idea of permanence, of standing firm, and immovable. The idea is strengthened in that the tense of the verb is **PERFECT**. The **PERFECT** tense describes an action that was completed in the PAST, once and for all, not needing to be repeated.
- The **PERFECT** tense make our “standing” (position) before God permanent.
- To stand before God or have access to God is to be found acceptable by Him.
- We are made acceptable by His grace! (Ephesians 1:6)

GRACE: Hope of Glory (Romans 5:2b-5a)

• The Christian's GLORY . . .

- The end of **GOD's** work in us is our **glorification**. Read Romans 8:28-30.
- We need to remind ourselves that our **glorification** is SURE because our salvation, from beginning to end is the WORK of God. (Philippians 1:6; "glorified" in Romans 8:30; Job 12:23)
- Our glorification is SURE because it is "anchored" in the PAST in the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross. ("It is finished." – John 4:34; 6:38-40; 6:44, 65; 9:4; 17:4; 19:30; Romans 5:1)
- Our glorification is SURE because it is "anchored" in the PRESENT in Christ's **work** today for us. He intercedes for His own. (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25)
- Our glorification is SURE because it is "anchored" in the WORD of GOD. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Isaiah 14:24-27; Matthew 24:35; Titus 1:1-2)
- Our glorification is SURE because it was "ordained" before the ages. (1 Corinthians 2:7; Romans 9:23)
- This "glory" is the **same** glory Christ had **before** He became man. It is the same glory as Christ!! (John 17:22; **2 Corinthians 3:18**)
- God has **predestined** believers to be **conformed** into the image of Christ, who is the expressed image of the invisible God! (Romans 8:29, Hebrews 1:3; 2 Corinthians 4:4)
- We **eagerly** look forward to Christ's coming because He will transform our bodies to conform with His body of glory! (Philippians 3:20-21)
- ★ "rejoice" is **καυχάομαι** *kauchaomai* {kow-khah'-om-ah-ee} which means "to glory in"; "to boast in"; "to rejoice in"; "to be jubilant"; "**to express an unusually high degree of confidence in someone or something being exceptionally noteworthy**".
 - It is an expression in the **confidence** we have **in** God. It really is a boast in God and what He has done, is doing and has promised to do! (Jeremiah 9:23-24; John 17:2; 1 Corinthians 1:29-31; 2 Corinthians 10:17; Galatians 6:13-14; Philippians 3:3)
- ★ "hope" is **NOT** an unsure expression as it is normally used in human affairs. Rather Biblical **hope** is grounded and anchored in GOD and therefore an absolutely SURE looking forward!
- ★ The "hope" is SURE because this hope is NOT grounded in **our** works but is actually CHRIST HIMSELF! (1 Timothy 1:1; Colossians 1:27)
- ★ Our "hope" is in God – how sure can that be!!! – 1 Peter 1:21.

We Also BOAST In . . . (vv. 3-5a)

Pressing Forward into 2022