

Peace with God

A Study of the Book of Romans

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Key Truth: Justification brings us peace with God and with it the blessings of God poured out in abundance.

As the Apostle Paul develops the doctrine of Justification by faith, he now lists various blessings that result from being counted righteous by God, one of which is Peace with God, which itself yields other blessings. We desperately need peace in this world, and no matter what sinful man does to manufacture it, we always seem to fail to enjoy peace in our own day and age, let alone in the human heart. Yet, God promises and produces peace. Not peace in the world, just yet. But peace in the heart of those who trust in Jesus – Peace with God.

DISCUSS

Read **Romans 5:1-5** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled “**Peace with God.**”

DIG IN

1. What is Peace with God? (Romans 5:1)

Peace is “a state or period in which there is no war or a war has ended.” In what ways is this rare in our world?

Why is having peace with God more blessed than simply enjoying peace in our world, or even in the human heart?

Considering the city of Jerusalem as the example of a place of peace (*shalam* = peace), in what ways is peace a place to which we run?

Why is it important that peace is not just a place, but a person (Jesus Christ)?

2. What are the Blessings of Peace with God? (Romans 5:2-5)

Considering all the times in the New Testament that “grace” is linked with “peace” (see Romans 1:7), in what ways are these two truths related?

How does the grace of God enable us to stand (see v. 2a)?

Describe the “hope of the glory of God” (v. 2b). Is this a glory given to God by us? Or is it a glory that comes from God? Why or why not?

Explain the “cycle of sanctification” seen in verses 3-4. In what ways does this enable us to grow in our confidence in God’s promises? In what ways does suffering help sanctify us?

How is love poured into our hearts (v. 5)? In what ways does this keep us from being ashamed? What role does the Holy Spirit play in this?

Why is it necessary to surrender to God in order to experience peace with God? What does that look like in the Christian heart?

DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?