



The Blessedness Of Righteousness

The middle chapters of Romans (5-8) are inspiring, heralding the unquenchable love of the father and the profound grace in Christ. These verses should compel us to live unto righteousness in the glorious liberty of sons of God. As we behold God’s love poured out, our lives will see transformation and will be useful to the glory of God. This chapter teaches that the love of God is displayed on the cross of Christ and by the holy spirit in our hearts, even during hardships. We are saved and will be saved. We exult in God to whom we’ve been reconciled. The chief purpose of man is to love and enjoy God forever, and we get to experience that now.

“We” – Personal Truths

The language in chapter 5 changes to the 3rd person plural “we,” highlighting how personal and collective these truths are because of the all-encompassing nature of Christ’s work. This is different than the voice of earlier chapters: “I” (Paul proclaiming the gospel,) “them” (sinners who need the gospel,) and “you” (anyone who thought that didn’t apply to them”)

The Truths of Chapter 5 Are Based on Our Justification

BEING JUSTIFIED, we have peace with God
BEING JUSTIFIED, we have access to his grace
BEING JUSTIFIED, we rejoice in hope of the God’s glory
BEING JUSTIFIED, we rejoice in tribulations
BEING JUSTIFIED, we will be saved from the wrath to come
BEING JUSTIFIED, we joy in God

Chapter Highlights

VS 1

We have peace with God, meaning we have been forgiven and accepted into fellowship with him. This marks the end of our hostility with God, as Jesus has made peace through the blood of his cross. We once were enemies, but now God is for us and with us.

VS 1 CONT.

Jesus is the great peacemaker of the kingdom of God, and we can't undo the peace that has been made. We get to taste of the harmony the father has with his sinless son.

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you.

JOHN 14:27A

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

JOHN 16:33

VS 2

We've been led openly into the presence of God; the presence of the one who dwells in inapproachable light. Yet we come right in, engulfed in grace, standing continually before the holy, brilliant throne of God clothed with the righteousness of Jesus. We don't have to fear facing him, as we are received by him.

Our hope is in the glory of God. His glory is already revealed in the creation of heaven and earth, in Christ, and in the new creation of the church, but someday it will be fully recognized by everything and everyone. That can give us joy now despite this corrupt age. The object of eternal days is to know God and Jesus Christ, and we get to be a part of that glory story. This is unlike the unthankful ones in chapter 1 who knew God but didn't glorify him as God.

VS 3-4

Tribulations put pressure on us to exchange truth for a lie, but we can face them with a boast in God that produces endurance, character, and hope. We must face trials because the world is hostile. Sufferings are the only path to glory, but they can cause us to mature along the way. Pressures give us the opportunity to prove our faith and affirm God's will. Even Jesus learned obedience by what he suffered. A proven integrity is having expectation of God's goodness despite hardship. We can face troubles with hope in God instead of avoiding them. In times of suffering we can show love for God by simple faithfulness.

VS 5

The steadfast love of God is the grounds for our hope. When everything feels broken is a perfect time to experience God's love. The active work of the holy spirit poured out in our cold, stony hearts animates us and illuminates us to know the love of God. We're sure of our hope because of his love in the spirit and the love on display on the cross.

VS 6-8

The essence of love is sacrifice. Jesus Christ gave himself for people who didn't deserve it. At the cross God's love and justice meet. He simultaneously judges sin and gives life, revealing both his mercy and his righteousness. We were weak and ungodly, and yet while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Even while his enemies were crucifying him, he was saving them. This costly gift of love on our behalf welcomes us into the the presence of God as he is: sinless and holy.

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us

I JOHN 3:16A

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

I JOHN 4:10

VS 9-11

There is much more to come! If as sinners and enemies we were saved by the death of Christ, much more being justified and reconciled will we we will be saved from wrath by his life. We are at one with God and the lamb through no merit of ours, and we revel in joy that he is ours and we are his.

That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

JOHN 17:21-23



Conclusion

Our lives can go from boasting in self to boasting in God. Ours is a redemption by faith that is worth living for. What is it that compels us? It is reveling in knowing God as part of his redeemed family, and living by faith in the son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.

Romans

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