



**Five Sermons on Romans 5:**  
**Justification—Part B**  
(Romans 5:1-2)

# Romans 5:1-11

**5 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.**

- <sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

# Romans 5:1-11

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

- <sup>11</sup> More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

# Five Sermons on Romans 5

- Sermon #1: **Justification** (Romans 5:1-2)
- Sermon #2: **Sanctification** (Romans 5:3-5)
- Sermon #3: **Substitution** (Romans 5:6-8)
- Sermon #4: **Propitiation** (Romans 5:9-10)
- Sermon #5: **Reconciliation** (Romans 5:11)

# Preliminary Definition: “Salvation”

- From the Hebrew: “The common Hebrew words for salvation, deriving ultimately from a root word meaning width, spaciousness, **freedom from constraint**, hence deliverance . . . Preservation from any danger”

--Baker Reference Library, *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.

“Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved” (Psalm 80:19).

“Salvation”: to be freed from one’s sins so you can be with God now and have immortal life with Him through all eternity

# Sermon #1: Justification

## (Romans 5:1-2)

- **5** Therefore, since we have been **justified** by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **2** Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

# Definition of “Justification”: Verdict of an Acquittal (Not Guilty!)

- “The basic fact of biblical religion is that God **pardons** and accepts believing sinners.” (J.I. Packer)
- [Justification] “is thus a forensic term [relating to courts of law], denoting a judicial act of administering the law—in this case, by declaring a **verdict of acquittal and so excluding all possibility of condemnation**. Justification thus settles the legal status of the person justified”

--J.I. Packer, “Justification,” *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.

# Definition of “Justification”: Extent of the Acquittal

- <sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.  
<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;  
<sup>12</sup> **as far as the east is from the west,**  
**so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:10-12)**



# Definition of “Justification”: Reason for the Acquittal: God’s Love

- <sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.  
<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
**so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**
- (Psalm 103:10-11)
- **Song/hymn: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us**, how vast beyond all measure, that he should give his only son, to make a wretch His treasure.”
- **“For God so loved the world** that he gave His only son, that whoever believes in him [Jesus Christ] should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

# Rewards of “Justification”: Righteousness

- **In our natural state, all are unrighteous:** “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23)
- “For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:20).

## Righteousness restored through faith:

- <sup>3</sup> For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham **believed** God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup> And to the one who does not [rely on their own good] work[s] but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, **his faith is counted as righteousness**” (Romans 4:3-5).
- “The **righteousness** of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe” (Romans 3:22)

# Rewards of “Justification”: Access to God

In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

- “We have a strong city;  
he sets up salvation  
as walls and bulwarks.  
<sup>2</sup> Open the gates,  
that the **righteous** nation **that keeps faith** may **enter in**.  
<sup>3</sup> You keep him in perfect peace  
whose mind is stayed on you,  
because he trusts in you.  
<sup>4</sup> Trust in the LORD forever,  
for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock. (Isaiah 26:1-4)

# Rewards of Justification: Peace with God

- **5** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
- <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. (John 14:27)
- For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17)

# Rewards of Justification:

## Joy

- **5** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we **rejoice** in hope of the glory of God.
- “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then **in his joy** he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. (Matthew 13:44)
- These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. (John 15:11)

# Means of Justification: Through Jesus Christ

- **5** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God **through our Lord Jesus Christ**.
- **2** Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

# Means of Justification: Through Jesus Christ

- “Against this black background . . . Paul proclaims the present justification of sinners by grace through faith **in Jesus Christ**, apart from all works and despite all demerit.” (J.I. Packer)
- “But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although **the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it**— <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith **in Jesus Christ** for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, **through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.**” (Romans 3:21-24 ESV)

# Means of Justification: Through Jesus Christ

- Jesus answered, “I am the way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)
- And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)



# Means of Justification: By Faith

- **5** Therefore, since we have been justified **by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **2** Through him we have also obtained access **by faith** into this **grace** in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
- "For **by grace** you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **9 not a result of works**, so that no one may boast."  
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

# Two Interpretations of “by faith”

- “Grace” = God’s unmerited favor
- **Calvinist/Reformed:** Regeneration (receiving God’s grace/being “born again”) *precedes* Faith because God is *sovereign*
- Jesus: “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.” (John 6:44)
- **Arminian/Evangelical:** Faith *precedes* Regeneration (receiving God’s grace/being “born again”) because human beings have *free will* . . . (However, *prevenient grace* still precedes Faith)
- “Choose this day whom you will serve . . . But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” (Joshua 24:15)
- “And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup> And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.” (Luke 23:42-43)

# Two Interpretations of “by faith”

- **The Question:** To what extent—if any—is faith in Jesus Christ as one’s Savior and Lord subject to human free will?
- **Theological Compatibilism:** Both the Reformed and the Arminian positions are correct at the same time—“a belief that God's predetermination and meticulous providence is ‘compatible’ with voluntary choice.”
- **Faith in what?** Faith that God provides a way for sinful human beings to be saved from their sins and enjoy eternal life with Him by believing that Jesus paid the price for our sins through His death on the cross and accepting Jesus as Savior and Lord of our lives.

# Application

- **Humbly acknowledge that our salvation is not because of anything that we have done:**
- “For **by grace** you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> **not a result of works**, so that no one may boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- **Believe in our hearts and acknowledge with our mouths that Jesus is Lord:**
- “But the righteousness based on faith says . . . ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For **with the heart one believes and is justified**, and **with the mouth one confesses and is saved**. . . <sup>13</sup> For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved’” (Romans 10:6, 8-10, 13).



**Let Us Pray**

A photograph of two hands raised in prayer, holding a glowing white cross. The hands are silhouetted against a bright, golden sunset sky with clouds. The sun is visible through the cross, creating a lens flare effect. The background shows a horizon line over water.