

READ ROMANS 5 . . . I DARE YOU!

A commentary on each verse.

Before this, Jesus had said, “*It is finished*”. Christ **has** accomplished God’s great plan of the ages. All we have to do is allow the Holy Spirit to bring us all to an understanding by believing in Him including what He really accomplished. John 6:29 tells us that it is even God’s work to get us to believe . . . no wonder. LOVE never fails. So let us look at what the Bible really says and you may find out just how teachable you are!!!

‘JUSTIFIED’ FROM THE BEGINNING — SHOWN TO US 2000 YEARS AGO!

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

God is at peace with man because He sees the end of things. Thus He does not have ‘an axe to grind’! man needs to have peace with God. We were justified **before** we were born naturally without any input from us at all. Christ has ‘*justified*’ us - **removed the blemish on our record so that it never even occurred in His eyes**. In place of condemnation Christ gave all men, all sinners as you will see, peace . . . yes, it is a ‘done-deal’ and it happened before they were born too! ‘*By faith*’ — Whose faith? Yours’ or mine? Neither! Our faith is too unreliable . . . anyhow that would make our justification dependent upon us and that is “works”! It was the faith of Jesus Christ as Galatians 2:20 declares . . . “*I live by the faith of Jesus Christ who loved me and gave Himself for me*”. We need to tell people what they have and how they were given it.

Romans 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Also - we all **have** another ‘done-deal’ which is access by faith into this grace. Grace includes all He has done for each one without them **having to** agree to it, like it or even want it. We can now all stand up straight, look life in the eye, and know what God wants of us . . . simply, His glory to be seen in the man(kind) that He created for that very purpose. When it has been revealed to us what God has done, then we shall surely rejoice in its benefits. Our ‘hope’ of being changed from glory to glory into His image as a true ‘son’, comes through understanding, enlightenment and revelation by His Spirit, enabling us to accept this great provision in Christ.

‘NOT ONLY SO’ MEANS ‘MUCH MORE’

Romans 5:3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; (tribulation means pressure)

Here is more! A few pressures do not faze us any more, they produce patience in us because He is working all things together for good — ours and His!. Experience is a good teacher who instills the confidence of knowing God is in full control. He, being the King of the Kingdom of God, is making sure that His life of love, is revealed in all hearts. **Yes, this provision is absolutely free - there being nothing for you to do in order to get God to give it for you!**

ALL BECAUSE ‘GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD’

Romans 5:4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Another ‘done-deal’ has been provided — The Holy Spirit is given. We need to become fully aware of this truth and yield to His expression in our lives. Let us look at the progression into this reality: from tribulation-pressure to patience to experience to hope. Because of what has been received and experienced, the same Source who has decreed it, will likewise cause it to happen. We will then be unashamed to experience the fullness of God’s love because He will then have become a constant reality in each of us. All this because He has enabled us to believe the

revelation that He has given.

Romans 5:6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Did Christ die for all Christians? Yes. Did Christ die for all ungodly, unbelieving sinners? Yes. He did that because He knew we could do nothing about it ourselves.

Romans 5:7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

God, who is Love showed Himself to be Love in that while we were unbelievers, sinners, Christ died for us without our even requesting such a provision. There are two major aspects in life that show we are **were** sinners. They are 'unbelief' and 'disobedience' to God's laws. Remember, where there is no law, there can be no transgression (v.13). Jesus Christ died for us sinners because He didn't want us to continue in that self-centred life of sin, but rather, by receiving His resurrection life, we might live a righteous life solely by His life in us.

THE FIRST 'MUCH MORE'

Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

More than that. . . "MUCH MORE" . . . is included! Amazing! For example: A weight-lifter — I can lift say, 50 pounds. A trained weight-lifter comes and lifts 300 pounds right above his head. His lift was MUCH MORE! It is wonderful, being justified . . . past tense. . . done-deal again. Yes. Why? Because Christ shed His blood to achieve it and, because He did that without our cooperation, we **SHALL BE SAVED** by His life now released in us each one. Because of such a provision, there is MUCH MORE, for God is no longer against us - yes, all of us sinners - all of His children called 'mankind'. . . He is for us and has been all along and we receive that peace with God which is much more than just being justified.!

THE SECOND 'MUCH MORE'

Romans 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Death from the first Adam lasts for an age: much more the life we now have in Christ lasts indefinitely . . . which the bible calls 'forever'. It all took place '**When we were enemies with God**' - God didn't take that into account - **He reconciled all** . . . He made us all one with Him again for *God is no respecter of persons*. Remember that God doesn't have to be reconciled to man because He has always known where He is going with man(kind), but man needs to be reconciled to God. So we who were sinners, without any conditions shall be saved by His life — quite definite, isn't it? His resurrected life gained complete victory over death and sin that brings about death. 'Shall be saved' . . . from what? The old earthbound, natural-thinking, self-centred 'first-Adam life. It is a true 'trade-in' of the old life for the new — His. Eventually God stated that there would be no more death . . . that equates with no more sin, because His Life has fully penetrated every fibre of our being and swallowed up the effects of the old life that are still around.

Romans 5:11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

'Not only so' implies that there is more!. Not only that blessing to all sinners, but "MUCH MORE". We too can have the joy of knowing that we now have received the atonement or reconciliation which is the same word.

ADAM RUINED LIFE!

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death

passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Is there anything that you can do to go to hell? No, not a thing! Why not? You are too late! It was done without you knowing it, believing it, understanding it or even choosing it. . . by the first man called Adam. . . and he did it all on his own! You and I were born in sin and we had nothing to do with it being so. Now that's a tough deal, don't you think? Sin brought with it death, so all men everywhere are scheduled to die!

Romans 5:13 For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Since Adam's 'fall', sin has been around each one, but it wasn't placed as a specific charge until the 'law' was given . . . the law was given and man discovered that he'd already broken that law and was doomed to come under its sentence. Looks like a backward step! It was simply to show that man cannot lift himself above that sin-filled existence. Sin's wages of death were being paid out regardless of who one was. The 'law' being now fulfilled by Jesus Christ, what then accuses one? Answer . . . only what one's carnal religious thinking can come up with!

'ADAM No.1' PATTERNED 'ADAM No.2'

Romans 5:14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

Adam did a 'good job' of sinning . . . he had no idea that he would affect so many. The first Adam was a picture of the second Adam (Christ). How come? The first Adam, as the federal head of the human race, sinned and passed its effects on to everyone else. We were all born in/with sin without any say in that matter! If left right there, it would have been an extremely unjust thing for mankind to face . . . just not fair to condemn man when he had nothing to do with his predicament . . . but, praise **God, He is just and He is Love**. God couldn't, by His very nature, leave the situation unresolved. So, by following the same principle of one man, Adam, ruining mankind fully, one man, Jesus, reconciled mankind fully.

THE THIRD 'MUCH MORE'

Romans 5:15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

Adam sinned and fell - this offence caused *many* to die . . . that's everyone, right? . . .so "MUCH MORE", the scripture says, that the death of the '*one man*' Jesus Christ has flowed over to the same group - **the many**. Those who were beforehand sentenced to eternal death because of their sin which was caused by the inherited sin-nature, are now, by the grace of God, set free..

Romans 5:16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

As Adam brought judgment and the verdict of 'guilty', we were all sentenced to death, so Christ freely reversed it and acquitted all men. The trial or judgment was still made, but the case was thrown 'out of court' as all the evidence against mankind was obliterated for ever by the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE FOURTH 'MUCH MORE'

Romans 5:17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

Because of Adam, death reigns and has full control over men's lives — but now, because of Christ, there is more, "MUCH MORE" given, which gives to every man the overflow of grace and the gift of right living (righteousness) and **that combination of grace and righteousness now reigns and has control over man's destiny.**

GOD PLANNED BOTH

Romans 5:18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

AS ADAM AFFECTED ALL MEN, SO DOES CHRIST AFFECT ALL MEN. ADAM GAVE US DEATH, CHRIST GIVES US LIFE.

Romans 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

‘many’ = all. The same ‘many’ in God’s eyes that were sinners and are now made righteous. Remember God is no respecter of persons and that ‘word’ is not just for Christians.

THE FIFTH ‘MUCH MORE’

Romans 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

The coming of the ‘law’ exposed the sin in each one . . . the unending amount of it too . . . so that, by contrast, the grace and provision of Christ could stand out contrasting its greatness. **There is MORE grace and mercy than there is sin**, disobedience and unbelief! God is mercy-FULL.

GRACE IS SCHEDULED FOR ‘FULL REIGN’

Romans 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

‘Even so’ simply means ‘in exactly the same way’. God later introduced the ‘law’ to expose the sin in each one: but He didn’t want man to remain in that condemned state, so He loosed His grace upon all. There is no sin anywhere at any time that can outdo or overcome the provision of God’s grace. That is why you cannot do anything in order to go to ‘hell’. There is no sin ever that is more powerful than the shed blood of Christ. **Grace** has “MUCH MORE” **life** in it than all the sins of mankind have **death** in them. He loves each one in the same magnificent, unconditional way. Yes, sinner and saint alike. Wonderful and marvellous, is it not?

Grace now reigns and controls all things so that the life of God in everyone of His offspring (mankind) can come forth, be seen and become a reality. What a glorious plan God had before He pressed the ‘start’ button. Being Love, He knew that He would not fail - why? Well, He **is** God, you know! For Him to fail even with one man, one tiny part of Himself . . . of His image and likeness . . . would show Himself not to be in **full** control and that is just not so! If the will of sinful man including **all** his choices, is greater than the will of God, then sinful man would usurp God’s Sovereign place. This he cannot do, because God is God. God has redeemed mankind to come into expressing His image and His likeness in the earth . . . His original plan in Genesis 1:26 was, “*Let us make man(kind) in our image and likeness*”— and it hasn’t changed for He hasn’t changed. Praise the Lord.§