

Christ Our Only Peace
Romans 5:1-11

Introduction:

peace |pēs|

noun

1 freedom from disturbance; quiet and tranquility : *you can while away an hour or two in peace and seclusion.*

• mental calm; serenity : *the **peace of mind** this insurance gives you.*

2 freedom from or the cessation of war or violence : *the Straits were to be open to warships in time of peace.*

- **εἰρήνη eirene;** of unc. der., perh. from **εῖρω (to join)**: lit. or fig. *peace*, by impl. *welfare*: — **peace**(90), **undisturbed***(1).
- In a time when peace for many includes thoughts of war, famine, broken family relationships, what we find that we need more than anything else is peace with God.
- Even if we were to be at peace on all other human realms, but not God, we would find ourselves at war with God Himself; starving in our sin; enemies to the family of God.
- **Isaiah 9:6**
- **Matthew 10:26-39**
- Christ is our Only Hope for Peace with God.
- Chp.4 – Coming out of a description of the way God's promise was given to Abraham through faith. Showing us that being right with God has ALWAYS been by faith alone in a God who keeps His promises. And His promises are fulfilled in Christ, who is the PRINCE OF PEACE!

Christ the Peacemaker (vv.1-2)

- A) Therefore...
 - a. **Romans 4:1-5,16,22-25**
 - b. Christ HAS to be the Peacemaker because we cannot earn God's favor.
- B) Justifier
 - a. Died for our sin (**Eph.2:1-3**)
 - b. Rose for our justification (pronouncing righteous; acquittal)
 - c. Of Circumcised and Uncircumcised
- C) Satisfier
 - a. Peace with a Holy God (righteous requirements met)
 - b. Access through faith ALONE by grace ALONE for joy in the glory of God ALONE

Christ's Peace is the Key to All of Advent (vv.3-5)

- A) Joy in Future Grace
 - a. Real life is Suffering (purifying our Peace)
 - i. Cancer has no holiday
 - ii. Job loss does not respect the season of giving
 - iii. Suffering produces endurance!
 - iv. Endurance produces character...4
- B) Hope in Sanctification
 - a. Suffering purifies our character
 - b. Our character finds its growth when Christ is our increasingly singular hope
- C) Love through the Spirit
 - a. Our hope is humble
 - b. Our hope is in future grace (fully realized in Christ, tasted now in His love through the Holy Spirit who empowers and keeps us)

Christ's Peace Through Reconciliation (vv.6-11)

- A) Substitutionary (Vicarious) Atonement (vv.6-8)
 - a. This present love we realize in the Spirit is bound up in the purpose of Christ's coming, to die in the place of the redeemed.
 - b. His death was IN OUR PLACE, not IN OUR WAY (like merely taking a bullet for us)
- B) Justification (vv.9-10)
 - a. Blood is necessary payment
 - b. Pronounced righteous by His shed blood (imputed righteousness)
 - c. Acquittal means the charges have been dropped, but that does not mean sin was overlooked.
Payment had to be made. Holiness demands it. God's wrath was to be poured out on the head of the baby in the manger when He was 33 years old.
 - d. Peace through Christ is bound up in reconciliation (to exchange accordingly)
 - e. Peace unto Assurance (real peace is KNOWING THAT YOU HAVE BEEN PURCHASED BY GOD IN CHRIST JESUS FOREVER... You can face any manner of suffering or circumstance if you know this!!!)
- C) Christ our Joy (v.11)
 - a. Increasingly so, we don't just endure but we ENJOY!
 - b. This peace that is only found through Christ is a present reality for those in Christ Jesus!
 - c. PEACE does not merely remove the strain. PEACE through Christ produces joy, complete and utter satisfaction in Him...ARE YOU SATISFIED?

Conclusion

- Romans 4 is amplified in Romans 5 to help us see that if we try to find peace by works, we will remain at enmity with God.
- However, when we accept Christ's finished work by Faith, we shall be made right with God, never needing to fear judgment...finally, at peace!
- Believer, peace with God culminates in this life with increasingly satisfying Joy in Him. Are you increasingly satisfied with Christ?
- Unbeliever, has your heart been convicted this morning. Do you realize that you are an enemy of Christ, needing Him to make peace with God for you through the cross? If so, accept Him by faith alone, trusting all that He is and has done for you.