



Romans 5:1-21

❖ Introduction

What is grace?

Grace is the abundant provision of God freely given to the **UNDESERVING**.
 Grace is the favor of God shown to those who not only have no positive worthiness of their own, but who instead deserve **HELL**.

Romans 5:1-21

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- We have been declared righteous by God as a result of our faith [in Christ] (3:19-4:25)
- Because we are righteous before God, we now have peace - complete absence of hostilities and complete **HARMONY** - with [facing] God.

*2 through whom also we have obtained our [permanent] introduction by faith into **this grace in which we stand [permanently]** ;*

- Through Christ and faith in Him, we are escorted into the very personal presence of God where we stand and live with Him not because of anything good in us or anything good we do, but simply as a free **GIFT**.
- God, in Christ has done everything necessary so that in Christ, we live in the very presence of God, face to face with Him, in personal, harmonious fellowship.
- Because it is all God's doing, as a free gift from Him, we can do nothing to produce our position before Him, and we can do nothing to change it.
- The believer can face God in peace (v. 1) because he stands before God by grace, not works (v. 2)

It's grace, all grace!

and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

- "Exalt" also translated as "rejoice", "boast". It carries the idea of confidence, worship, **EXCITEMENT**.

- This exaltation is over the hope (confident & secure expectation) we have of the glory of God; both beholding God's glory in heaven and participating in it as those fully **GLORIFIED** in His presence.

We were incapable of righteousness. Now, we have perfect righteousness. We had hostility. Now, we have peace. We were under God's wrath. Now, we are under His protection. We fell short of God's glory. Now, we share in His glory. We were alienated from God. Now, we are escorted into His presence. We were His enemies. Now, we are His friends. We had no hope. Now, we have secure, confident hope.

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Having stated that man is constantly "coming short of the glory of God," Paul now teaches that those who have been justified can look forward with great anticipation to sharing in the glorious experience of all that God is, and all that He has for them in the future. – The Preacher's Commentary

Peace with God takes care of the past: He will no longer hold our sins against us. *Access to God* takes care of the present: we can come to Him at any time for the help we need. *Hope of the glory of God* takes care of the future: one day we shall share in His glory!

– Wiersbe, Warren

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3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; 4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

- We glory, boast, rejoice . . . in tribulations! . . . affliction, distress, the pressures of life!
- Why? Because through our trials, God gives us the grace to keep going and glorify Him. This *perseverance* demonstrates the reality of our previously untested **FAITH** and reveals the character of Christ in us (*proven character*). When we see the reality of Christ demonstrated in us, we become more confident in our hope.
- Why do we glory in trials? Because after we get to the other side, we will be more like Christ. We groan under the pain of the crucible, but we glory in the perfecting of character.

5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

- We will never be let down or disappointed in our hope in God. It cannot happen because God's love has already been poured out and continues to flood our hearts in and through His **SPIRIT**.

The Holy Spirit is a gift of God's loving grace and a down payment of future grace.

The Holy Spirit continually ministers within us to reassure us of God's loving grace and our sure hope.

- Our hope is secure in grace.

God placed His Spirit within us as a DOWN- payment of promised glory. How will He not freely perfect us in Christ, in glory, in complete fulfillment of His grace?

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6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

- When we completely unable to help ourselves in anyway; at the strategic time; in the “fullness of time”, Christ died in the PLACE of and on behalf of those who totally unlike God.
- It's a real stretch to imagine someone giving their life for someone just because they were morally upright. Perhaps, for someone who was good, generous, and beneficial to us, someone who had been especially good to us, we might give our life.
- God showed genuine, unpolluted love when Christ died for sinners. The gift of Christ and redemption is given to those who had nothing to offer, no righteousness, no good. We had nothing to show for ourselves but SIN.

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9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

- We are secure in grace; secure from the wrath of God.

God did not spare His own Son, but freely gave Him as a gift of grace for our sin. In the death of Christ, God freely gave us the gift of righteousness and peace with Him when we were His enemies. We are free from the wrath of God by GRACE.

It's grace, all grace!

11 And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

- Through Christ, we have received reconciliation with God as a gift of His GRACE and so, we rejoice, boast, glory in God!

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned--

- When Adam sinned, sin spread to the entire human race making us all sinners by NATURE. This sin nature is clearly seen as each person sins in practice.

13 for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

- Sin existed before the Law came but was not legally reckoned as sin because there was no Law. But, even though sin was not against Law, it was sin and so DEATH reigned as king over man.
- Adam was the representative of the entire human race when he sinned. Adam was a type of another man who would act as representative for the entire human race: JESUS.

15 But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

- Adam's single sin brought sin to all men and brought death to many. That sin had powerful, far reaching consequences. Jesus' death accomplishes something of far greater power and significance. His death provides the free gift of GRACE to many.

The sacrificial, substitutionary death of Christ on the cross is the “much more” gift of grace that provides the “much more” gift of LIFE.

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16 The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification.

- ONE sin brought judgement and condemnation to all mankind. Many sins followed, committed by every human being since Adam.
- MANY sins led to the free gift by grace resulting in justification for many.
- Jesus' payment is not just for the one representative sin of Adam. It was for the sins of mankind that are too great to NUMBER. It is a complete overturn of a huge sin debt . . . in one act of GRACE.

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17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

- The effects of Adams sin were devastating. Through Adam's sin death became king and reigned over all men.

- The effects of **GRACE** are infinitely greater. The super-abundant grace of God and the gift of righteousness will reign through Christ.

It's grace, all GRACE!

18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. 19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

- The contrast between the effects of Adam's sin and Christ's sacrifice are staggering. Adam's sin had tremendous, far reaching effects.
- These consequences of Adam's sin completely pale in comparison to the effects of grace in Christ! Christ's gracious sacrifice and the gift of His righteousness by grace wipe out a debt so great it cannot be comprehended. Death gives way to **LIFE**.

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20 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, 21 so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- The Law came and made the reality of sin clear, demonstrated how much sin existed and added the sin of breaking the revealed Law. But, the revealing of sin did not decrease the amount of sin. Sin **INCREASED!**
- The surging growth of sin could never keep pace with the overwhelming flood of **GRACE!**
- Sin ruled, exercising its devastating control and **DEATH!**
- Grace rules giving righteousness resulting in **LIFE!**

It's grace, all GRACE!

It's ALL Grace

Our salvation Is by Grace!

Our Security Is by Grace!

Our Standing Is by Grace!

Our Stability Is by Grace!

Our Suffering Is by Grace!

It's ALL Grace