

# Romans – Crown Jewel of Salvation

## 13 - Faith in Christ Changes Your Security

### Romans 5:5-11

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney

When you've been justified by faith alone and made right with the God of the universe...

#### V. You'll Experience the Love of God Like Never Before

**Romans 5:5** "Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."

**Romans 5:6-8** "For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God **demonstrates His own love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

God pours out His love in our hearts and most clearly demonstrates His love to us by directing our minds to consider again – deeply – the death of His Son. God's love is communicated to us through objective truth about the death of Christ.

The love of God is all the more striking when you recognize our condition when He loved us.

v.6 "when we were still without strength (NIV 'powerless')... Christ died for the ungodly"

v. 8 "...while we were still sinners..."

v. 10 "...when we were enemies..."

"The Holy Spirit is not a mood-altering drug. He's an illuminator of the glory of God's love in the work of Christ. He's a heart and eye opener to the ravishing reality that in the death of Christ for us, God loved us infinitely." John Piper, Sermon, Nov. 28, 1999, 'The Love of God Has Been Poured Out in Our Hearts'

Meditate on the death of Christ for YOU... and the Holy Spirit will help make it alive to you. You'll find that the more you understand and meditate on the death of Christ, the more you'll experience the love of God for you. The two are intimately connected.

#### VI. What God Gives You is Secure... Right now... and Forever

- **V. 9** "having now **been justified**
- we shall **be saved**
- **V.10** "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."

The God of the universe is acting upon us... and is doing FOR us what we could never do FOR ourselves.

Paul's talking about "out there" in the future. He says **if** we've been justified **right now** by his blood, then God will keep us saved "out there" in the future. "We shall be saved."

Some people believe that only God can save you... but then they live as if it's all up to them now to stay saved!

**Romans 1:16-17** "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'"

The righteousness of God is revealed in the Gospel and applied to our account. That's what saves you! And that's what keeps you saved!

When you understand this, you'll begin to experience the peace Isaiah talked about:

**Isaiah 32:17-18** "The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places."

The more you see of God in your salvation from start to finish, the more SECURITY you'll have in your life... as well as humility... and gratitude... and praise and worship!

The doctrine of eternal security runs through the Bible because it's based on the character of God that runs through the Bible.

**Jude 1:24** "To Him who is able to **keep** you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy to the one and only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority through Jesus Christ our Lord before all ages now and forevermore."

**2 Timothy 1:9-12** "Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, **not** according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel... for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that **He is able to keep** what I have committed to Him until that Day."

**John 10:27-29** "My sheep listen to My voice and I know them and they follow Me ... and I give them **eternal** life and they shall **never perish**. No one can snatch them out of My hand. My father who's given them to Me is greater than all and no one can snatch them out of My Father's hand."

You're in the double GRIP OF GRACE! Jesus, Your Savior, has you in His hand. And God the Father has His hand wrapped around you both! You're in the GRIP of the Almighty God of the universe. And He's not letting go!

**Philippians 1:6** "I am confident of this very thing that He who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Christ."

"... we learn to live not by our **feelings about** God but by the **facts** of God. I refuse to believe my depressions; I choose to believe in God. If I break my leg I do not become less of a person. My wife and children do not repudiate me. Neither when my faith fractures or my feelings bruise does God cast me off and reject me.

My feelings are important for many things. They are essential and valuable. They keep me aware of much that is true and real. (Now listen to this!) But they tell me next to nothing about God or my relationship with God. **My security comes from who God is, not from how I feel.** [The Christian life] is a decision to live by what I know about God, not by what I feel about Him..." *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction ~ Discipleship in an Instant Society, Eugene Peterson, p. 83*

Don't doubt in the dark what you know to be true in the light. Because dark times **will** come, but it doesn't change the truth... and it doesn't change the promises and character of God.

**Hebrews 7:24-25** "Therefore He is **able to save** to the **uttermost** those who come to God through Him because He always lives to intercede for them."

If you've been justified then Jesus Christ is praying for you right now, making intercession for you, pleading your case before the God of the universe.

**Romans 8:15** "For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear but you've received a spirit of **adoption** and we cry `Abba, Father' and the Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God's children."

God chose us... we didn't choose Him.

In Jewish law you could disown a natural child, but by law you could NEVER disown an adopted child. That was the law in Jewish culture. When Paul wrote that you're adopted into God's family... it means God will never disown you. Oh, He'll discipline you... and prune you... and stretch you... but He'll never ever disown you.