

**Riverview Baptist Church Wednesday Night Class:
A Study in the Book of Romans – Lesson 5**

At this point, the Apostle Paul indicates some of the blessings that come as a result of being justified – that is God declaring the one who through _____ in the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be righteous.

We must note that what Paul is giving here is not an exhaustive list. One must study all of the New Testament material to fully understand all that God does for us through salvation.

C. The Benefits of Righteousness, 5:1–11

These benefits come as a result of our justification. Justification is only possible through faith in the sacrifice of Christ. Those who are not justified do not have these realities in their lives.

5:1 – The first reality - _____ with God. Compare this with John 3:36. The Greek grammar here indicates that we as believers are continuously experiencing that peace!

5:2 – The second reality - _____ to God. Compare Matt. 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45; compare to Leviticus 16.

The author of Hebrews records the illustration that Jesus Christ entered the Holy of Holies as a high priest for all as a final sacrifice ((Heb. 9:11–12, 24–26; 10:12)

The high priest in the Old Testament entered the Holy of Holies once a year on the Day of Atonement. It was then that he made atonement on behalf of the people. Now we approach God directly.

As a result of this access, we can rejoice (exult) in the knowledge that all that God has promised will come to pass. This is (should be) a continual rejoicing.

5:3-5 – The third reality is _____. Notice the end result of the issues that life brings is hope. This word comes from the Greek word ἐλπίζω (elpizō) – “to look forward with confidence to that which is good and beneficial.”

This confidence we can have in God’s promises will not result in our disappointment. Why is this so? How can we know this to be true? Because the love of God is poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Is this “love of God” His love for us or is it our love for God?

Notice the fourth reality - _____
(5:5).

5:6-8 – Having declared that God’s love is poured out in our hearts, Paul now describes the character of that love.

Notice the descriptions of unsaved man in this passage: helpless and ungodly (5:6), sinners (5:8), and enemies (5:10). These are not pleasant terms. Paul is contrasting the bad and the good. What then is the result?

5:9 – The fifth reality – we are _____ from God’s wrath.

Take note of the repetition of the phrase “much more” in 5:9, 10, 15, 17, 20. All of these are pointing to significance of Christ’s substitutional sacrifice. The salvation that we enjoy came at a great price! See 1 Peter 1:17-21.

5:10-11 – The sixth reality - _____ - “changing the state between God and man so that man can be brought back to God.”

Christ’s death makes reconciliation _____. Christ’s life (resurrection) ensures that it will actually occur. We can certainly rejoice in this truth!

D. The Applicability of Righteousness, 5:12–21

In this passage, Paul now makes an argument of _____ between Adam and Jesus Christ. Death came through Adam and life came through Jesus Christ.

Adam’s sin resulted in certain consequences. Jesus’s death also resulted in certain consequences. The realities between the two are opposites.

5:12-14 – In 5:12, we see that all of humanity became sinful through Adam’s sin. How is this so? Adam was the physical father of all mankind. Therefore, if Adam was sinful, then all of his progeny would inherit that sinfulness as well.

We call this the _____ nature or the sin nature. Up to this point, Paul has argued that all have sinned (3:10, 23). Paul then states the reason this is true. Our sin nature was passed down through Adam.

Take note that there was sin before the Law was given to Moses. How do we know this to be true? In 5:14, Paul makes it clear that _____ existed from Adam to Moses and beyond.

5:15-17 – The contrast! Paul states that the free gift (the totality of salvation) is not like the sin of Adam (and thus all mankind).

Notice the use of the phrase “much more” here. Just like sin affected all (the many), the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the Son is available to all (the many). This is a great _____ atonement verse.

The next verse, 5:16, can be a little confusing. Paul is still contrasting Adam and Jesus Christ. God’s judgment on mankind through Adam came as a result of _____ sin. The contrast is that the free gift of salvation is some much better coming even after _____ sins!

Verse 17 somewhat summarizes the contrast. Death came through the one. This is bad! Life comes through the One, Jesus Christ! This is much better!

5:18-19 – Paul here contrasts the difference between the one deed of Adam and the one deed of Jesus Christ. One deed made all sinful. One deed made it possible for all to be righteous.

All mankind is sinful (2:12). Not all mankind will be saved, although salvation is open to all. In order for a sinner to be justified, faith must be placed in the Lord (5:17; 3:24-26).

5:20-21 – Paul addresses the existence of the Law and how it relates. There was obvious sin before the Law (5:14), because death was before the Law.

The addition of the Law of Moses brought more sin, because there were more commandments to be broken. The more “laws” that exist, the more “laws” will be broken.

“Grace abounded all the more...” This is the greatest contrast Paul presents. Think of it in this manner: “No matter how great human sin becomes, God’s grace overflows beyond it and abundantly exceeds it.”¹

¹ John A. Witmer, “Romans,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 460.