

(A Bridge) The Blessing of Peace

Romans 5

- Paul has not been to R when he writes, in Acts 20:2-3. He makes it there ~4yrs later
- Church comprised of Jewish Christians & Gentile Christians – clash of cultures now one in Christ
- Ch. 4 illustrates faith through Abraham
- Ch. 5 serves as a bridge between a discussion of justification and sanctification

1. Peace of God through Jesus Christ – Romans 5:1-11

- 1: law/works brings frustration & doubt; grace/works results in peace
- 2: Whom – Jesus; access: *to + lead*
- 3: not only do we rejoice in good times but also in tribulations (pressure in GK)
- 4: proven character: trustworthy, dependable
- 5: our hope will never disappoint us; love – agape [unconditional]; supreme ex. 5:6-8
- 6: without strength – helpless
- 7: righteous: trying to live a righteous life; good man: also nice
- 8: NASB “His own love” – unique to God
- 9: much more – 2x in 9, 10; because of God’s grace we don’t get what we deserve [wrath]
- 10: enemies – hate; no complimentary terms
- Reconcile: exchange of hostility for a friendly relationship
- Because Jesus is alive, we know that God accepted His sacrifice and we can therefore be saved.
- 11: boasting not in accomplishments but God
- Atonement: at one ment – friends brought together – through Jesus

2. All-Sufficiency of Christ’s Sacrifice – Romans 5:12-21

- “What we lost in Adam... we more than gain back in Christ.” *J. D. Thomas*
- 12: Adam, head of household, took all blame
- Death – 20x in Romans
- 13: people have always had a law;
imputed = credited
- 14: death personified as tyrannical ruler who commands his subjects to die

- 15: different before showing similarities; 'free gift' redundant; God's gift of Jesus reversed effect of Adam's sin
- 16: *McCord*: judgment = verdict; trillions
- 17: 1] result of gift is "much more" than the result of transgression; 2] [*implied*] we have no choice regarding physical death; 3] [*unexp*] slaves [sinners] trade places with ruler
- 18: does not teach universalism [all ultimately saved]
- 19: both involved option to obey/disobey; Adam: "my will be done;/Jesus: "Thy Will.."
- 20: giving the Law caused sin to increase, not decrease, Ch. 7 exp.; grace: super-abounded
- 21: real "life" is being in presence of God; eternal "life" is in His presence for eternity!

Lessons:

1. Through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ upon the cross, I can be justified ("just if I'd never sinned). This is offered nowhere else.
2. We do not inherit the sins of our parents. Just because Adam sinned and ushered in sin does not mean we inherit his sin. We are born innocent, in the image of God; sin occurs when we transgress God's Law.
3. We should be thankful every day for the death of Jesus Christ. Without Him, we would be eternally lost.

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