

# NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL

— A Study of Romans —


Lesson Nine

Romans 5:1-11

*...but God shows his love for us  
in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Romans 5:8*

## Day 1

### Pray:



*Father, renew my spirit and help me see with fresh eyes the wonderful truths in your word. As I read and study may your words penetrate my heart and cause me to see you and love you.*

**Read:** Romans 5:1-11. Read it again in another translation such as NLT.

### Observe:

- Write key words and themes, repeated words, or phrases. Circle on your Scripture pages any transition words (therefore, but, because, if/then etc.)
- Are there any commands to be obeyed, or truths to be trusted?
- What questions do you have about the text?

## Day 2- Romans 5:1-2

In verse 1 and 2 we see three blessings and privileges that come with justification.

1. The first blessing is **peace with God**. What is the only avenue to peace with God according to verse 1?
  - a. How would you describe what peace with God is?

### Picture and Ponder

“God does not confer the status of righteousness upon us without at the same time giving himself to us in friendship and establishing peace between himself and us.”<sup>1</sup>

2. The second blessing we enjoy is **access into grace**. How does the NLT state the second blessing we receive in verse 2a?
  - a. How does this impact you?

### Digging Deeper

Hebrews 4:15-16 talks about access Jesus has given us. What else do we learn about this access from the verses in Hebrews below?

*For we do not have a high priest (Jesus) who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.*

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:15-16*

3. The third blessing is **joyful hope**. What is this joyful hope in, according to verse 2b?

a. Below each of the following verses write an aspect of what it means to rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

*...waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. Titus 2:13*

*Beloved we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.  
1 John 3:2*

*When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.  
Colossians 3:4*

*...when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. 2  
Thessalonians 1:10*

*...that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. Romans 8:21*



In Jesus, right now, we can enjoy peace with God, surrounded by his grace and filled with joyful hope for the future. What amazing blessings God gives to his children! All

of this is ours through Jesus—he has secured these for his own—now we must live in them!

◆ What area in your life do you need to take hold of these blessings?

### **Day 3- Romans 5:3-5**

1. Another blessing of justification (that might not seem like a blessing at first) is that we rejoice in our suffering. What good chain reaction can come out of suffering according to verses 3 and 4?

Scholar's Note: “*Character* is the quality of a person who has been tested and passed the test;”<sup>2</sup> mature or proven character.

#### For Discussion

How does suffering produce endurance and then character? How have you seen this at work in your own life or in the life of someone you know?

#### Digging Deeper

What is the path to glory according to the verse below?

*...if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. Romans 8:17*

## Picture and Ponder

"By the tutelage of suffering the Lord is fitting us for his eternal fellowship."<sup>3</sup>

### For Discussion

What alternative responses are there to suffering besides rejoicing? What do these responses produce?



Just as believers do not mourn without hope (1 Thes. 4:13), neither do we suffer without hope. If we will trust God in suffering, he will produce his character in us, culminating in the certain hope of a joyful eternity with him. We walk in Jesus' footsteps, who walked the path of suffering to eternal glory and he is with us. Because of Jesus our suffering is never without purpose.

- ◆ In order to be able to rejoice even while enduring painful suffering we have to value the things it produces. Where do endurance, character and hope fall in the list of things you value?
  
- ◆ Whether your suffering is slight or profound, how can you glorify God in it?
  
- ◆ In what ways have you dodged suffering for the sake of the gospel, instead of enduring suffering for the sake of the gospel?

## Picture and Ponder

The last link in the chain is hope produced by character— "Perhaps because the God who is developing our character in the present can be relied on for the future too."<sup>4</sup>

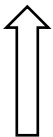
2. How do we know that our hope will not be disappointed according to verse 5?

- a. How do we get the Holy Spirit according to verse 5?
- b. Look back to verse 1; who are the "us" in verse 5 that God pours his love into and gives the Holy Spirit to?



We who are surrounded by grace through faith in Jesus ought to be mindful of God's love for us. God's own Spirit in our hearts testifies to us of our Father's love for us. Sadly, we sometimes live as if we are not loved by God. Imagine a beloved child living as if their parents didn't love them! If you struggle to know you are loved by God, the Bible is full of this truth! Find some of these verses and spend time soaking them in until your heart believes it. Write one or two verses here that are especially meaningful to you.

Scholar's Note: The verb "poured out" speaks of the inexhaustible abundance of the supply.<sup>5</sup>

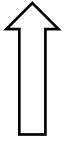


*Thank you, Father, for pouring out your love on me in overflowing abundance! Thank you for the gift of your own Spirit making me know that love! Help me to believe it and live in it.*

#### **Day 4- Romans 5:6-8**

1. Verse 5 teaches that we can be sure that the hope we have in God will not be disappointed because his Spirit testifies to us of his abundant love for us. Verse 6 gives us more assurance of God's great love for us. What is undeniable proof of God's unfailing love for us from verse 6?

2. What words in verses 6, 8 and 10 describe who Jesus died for?



*Jesus, you gave your life for me when I am so undeserving of your sacrifice.  
Thank you, Jesus, for dying for sinners!*

3. What are the implications of the phrase, *at the right time* in verse 6?

4. What is so shocking about each truth in verse 8?

*God shows his love for us-*

*While we were still sinners-*

*Christ died for us-*

### Picture and Ponder

"The more the gift costs the giver, and the less the recipient deserves it, the greater the love is seen to be. Measured by these standards, God's love in Christ is absolutely unique. For in sending his son to die for sinners, he was giving everything, his very self, to those who deserved nothing from him except judgment."<sup>6</sup>



Romans is teaching us that we can be assured of God's love even though we are sinful and even in the midst of suffering. Whether our suffering is for the gospel or if it is a trial that God has allowed into our lives, we never have to doubt God's love for us. He proved it "objectively in history"<sup>7</sup> by giving up his Son for us and he proves it "subjectively in experience"<sup>8</sup> by pouring his love into us by the gift of his Spirit.

- ◆ How do the truths in this passage convince you of God's love no matter your sin or your suffering?
  
- ◆ Is there a specific area of your life past or present that you need the truths of this passage to sink into? Talk to the Lord about this.

## Day 5- Romans 5:9-11

1. In verses 9 and 10 Paul uses a certain kind of logic—it is an argument from the greater to the lesser (the technical term is *a fortiori*, meaning *from the stronger*.) "The idea is this: if you have exerted your strength to accomplish something *hard*, then surely you can exert your strength to accomplish something *easier*."<sup>9</sup> What is the hard or great thing God has done through Jesus, for sinners in 9a?
  - a. If God has accomplished this hard and costly thing, what then is the easier thing that he most certainly will do according to 9b?
  
  - b. Look back to 2:5. What is the wrath of God that the justified will be saved from in the future?
  
2. What is the hard/costly thing God, through Jesus, has done according to the first part of verse 10?
  - a. If God has accomplished this hard and costly thing, how then will he most certainly treat his friends (reconciled enemies) according to 10b?



Scholar's Note: The salvation here that Jesus accomplishes includes not only “justification at the start of the Christian life but also completed sanctification, glorification, freedom from final condemnation and future rewards.”<sup>10</sup>



Paul is assuring us that if God went to such great lengths to reconcile us to himself—giving his own beloved Son to die for our sins when we were rebelling against him—then he will not stop short of our complete salvation, we shall be saved! If we were declared righteous by the death of Jesus, then the life of our risen Savior will preserve us to the final day when our salvation will be complete.

- ◆ How does this truth speak to any doubt you may have about the security of your salvation?
  
  - ◆ What does it mean for your life today that God has made you his friend?
  
  - ◆ If you have not put your trust in Jesus for salvation, why are you waiting? Jesus has done everything needed to bring you into relationship with God and save you. Call on the name of Jesus now, and you will be saved. (Rom. 10:13)
3. We have seen in this first half of chapter 5, that justified people rejoice in hope of the glory of God (v.2), rejoice in sufferings (v.3), and now in verse 11, rejoice in God himself. Who has made this relationship possible according to verse 11?
- a. What does this passage reveal about God's character that give us reason to rejoice in him? Write this out in a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

## Picture and Ponder

“Christian exultation in God begins with the shamefaced recognition that we have no claim on him at all, continues with wondering worship that while we were still sinners and enemies Christ died for us, and ends with the humble recognition that he will complete the work he has begun.”<sup>11</sup>

## *One Thing:*

What is one thing from this week’s study that God has impressed on your heart, or convicted you about; is there something new that you learned or is there a verse you want to ponder and meditate on?

Praise God for this and thank him for the work he is doing in your life. Ask him to help you remember this and live it out for his glory.

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<sup>1</sup> Cranfield as quoted in Stott, John R.W. *The Message of Romans*. P.139. Intersity Press USA

<sup>2</sup> Stott, John R.W. *The Message of Romans*. P.142. Intersity Press USA

<sup>3</sup> *Expositor’s Commentary*

<sup>4</sup> Stott, John R.W. *The Message of Romans*. P.142. Intersity Press USA

<sup>5</sup> *Expositor’s Commentary*

<sup>6</sup> Stott, John R.W. *The Message of Romans*. P.145. Intersity Press USA

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid*. P.146

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>9</sup> Piper, John. *Why I love the Apostle Paul* p.184, Crossway 2019

<sup>10</sup> Note on Romans 5:10 *ESV Study Bible*

<sup>11</sup> Stott, John R.W. *The Message of Romans*. P.147. Intersity Press USA

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