

The Fruits of Justification

(Rom 5:1-2)

- Having fully covered “justification by faith,” and having answered all objections and arguments against it, Paul now enters into an exposition of the results
- I. Mechanical division of the Roman Epistle
 - A) Widely accepted view of Dispensational System
 - 1. Rom 1-4- Justification
 - 2. Rom 5-8- Sanctification
 - 3. Rom 9-11- The problem of “Israel”
 - 4. Rom 12-16- Application
 - i. It is the false division that has led to the doctrines that separate justification from sanctification
 - B) The importance of recognizing the true division of any writing is key to keeping things in context
 - 1. Rom 5:1- “Therefore” (deductions and conclusions)
 - i. “Being justified by faith, we have.....” = results
 - a) And in keeping with the apostle’s pattern of comparing “justification by faith” with “justification by law/works” we have our context
 - 1) Can there be any peace with God for a man trusting his own works?
 - (a) Example of Martin Luther in confession
 - (b) Example of those “coming forward” at every invitation
 - (c) Example of the baptisms which “didn’t take”
 - C) True division of this section:
 - 1. Having answered several objections that might be raised against justification by faith, and having used Abraham as an example, the apostle now turns right back again to his subject, this time showing the results of that true justification
 - i. Fruits of justification:
 - a) Peace with God (firstfruits)
 - b) Access to God and His flowing grace
 - c) Assurance of glory
 - 2. Rom 5:1-11 isn’t given as a “summary” as so many teach
 - i. Rom 5:1-2- This is the theme of the section running from here through chapter 8
 - a) Rom 5- Paul is detailing the assurance of the position of the man justified by faith through his union with the Lord Jesus Christ

- b) Rom 6-7- Paul is addressing the accusation of “antinomianism”
 - 1) Ch 6- Shows the true result of the union with Christ regarding sin in our daily life
 - 2) Ch 7- Shows that the true “lawless” person is the person trusting justification by law/works
 - c) Rom 8- Positive exposition of the fruit of union with Christ
 - 1) Rom 8:1- “Therefore” (having answered those objections, let me return to my theme)
 - 3. Compare Rom 5:1-2 with Rom 8:30- This section is all about the certainty of the outcome of justification by faith, and is for the assurance of the believer
 - i. Paul goes from justification straight to glory each time, saying nothing about the process of ongoing sanctification
 - D) Rom 5:1-2- Theme
 - 1. Justification by faith accomplishes 3 main things here:
 - i. Peace with God
 - ii. Access to God and His blessings
 - iii. Perseverance under trials being assured of the glorious outcome
- II. Peace with God “through our Lord Jesus Christ”
- A) This is the main point of the entire section, what the believer has in union with Christ
- 1. Peace- must be the first thing because we are all born at enmity with God
 - i. Eph 2:1-3- Children of wrath
 - ii. Rom 5:10- Enemies
 - a) John 9:31- “God heareth not sinners”
 - 1) There can be no peace outside of reconciliation, that must come first
 - (a) But how can parties be reconciled without any communication possible?
 - (1) 1 Cor 2:14, Rom 8:7
 - 2. 1 Tim 2:5- Christ the Mediator
 - i. Mediator brings 2 estranged parties back together
 - a) This is the core of the gospel: relationship to God
 - b) 1 Pet 3:18- “To bring us (reconcile) us unto God”
 - 1) This is the “access” Paul mentions in Rom 5:2
 - (a) How can I have an audience with the president if I can’t get into the oval office?
 - (b) And how could I ever gain access to the oval office if I am a known enemy?

- (1) This is why there must first be brought about the condition of “peace with God”
- (2) Isa 32:15-18- Comfort ye My people
- (3) Isa 53:5- The chastisement that brought us peace was upon Him
- (4) Luke 7:50- Your faith has saved you, go in peace
- (5) Isa 61:1-2- Come to preach peace (Luke 4)
- (6) John 14:7- His peace is not like the world’s peace (Hitler’s treaty with Chamberlain)

B) Newer versions often say “let us have peace”

- 1. But if this is an exhortation, it is in now way an aid in assurance
- 2. Paul is not telling us what we ought to do, he is reassuring the believer of what justification by faith has gained him

C) Peace with God (not the peace of God as in Phil 4:7)

- 1. Peace with God is reconciliation, it is peace between 2 parties formerly at war
 - i. Peace with God is truly the only thing that matters in all the universe
 - a) We must all stand before our Creator, and we will either be at peace with him or remain at war with Him, there is no 3rd option
 - 1) “The atheist’s problem is not that he doesn’t know if God exists. His real problem is that he hates the God he knows exists.” RCS
 - ii. Rom 5:1 is not about how I stand up under trials and tribulation, doubts and fears. It is about how I will stand before God on judgment day!
 - a) This is Job’s concern: “How can a man be just before God?”
 - 1) Rom 5:1- “Through our Lord Jesus Christ”
 - (a) Lord Jesus Christ = God’s Appointed Savior