

Access To God

(Rom 5:1-2)

- Read section- Rom 5:1-11
- Paul is detailing the results of justification that come upon the redeemed sinner, as part of his establishing the assurance and security of the believer

I. “By Whom also”

A) All the benefits of our relationship to God are by and through the Lord Jesus Christ

1. This is the point Paul is making, the change of relationship for “in Adam” to “in Christ”

a) Rom 5:12-21- Read

2. 1 Cor 1:30- It is By God the Father that we are put “into Christ”

3. 1 Pet 3:18- “To bring us unto God”

B) The first benefit the believer comes into is the “peace with God”

1. But we mustn’t stop there in our thinking, for God has a much greater purpose: access to the Father and relationship with Him

a) But the “peace with God” must come first into our understanding, for if we fear Him we will not come into His presence

1) Compare going before judge as a guilty defendant and then as an expert witness

2) It’s the permanent peace we possess that grants access, knowing that Christ has paid our debt in full and that the Father is no longer angry with us nor has anything against us (no more enmity)

(a) If this peace with God is dependent upon us in any way, it can never be permanent peace

(b) “Perseverance is not founded upon our power or diligence, but upon Christ”

(c) Compare visiting both grandparents

II. “Access” (obtained access)

A) Access- From 2 words: to draw near or be brought close and a manner of life, or leading, discipline, a mode of living

B) It is the same as the “introduction to court” in England

1. 3 x’s in scripture: Eph 2:18 & 3:12

C) “We have”- perfect indicative active- Having had we now go on possessing

1. This is a point in time, a change of relationship

a) We couldn’t go before, and now we can

b) John 5:24- Passed from death unto life

- c) Eph 2:1-7- All the benefits of children of God as compared to the previous position of children of wrath
 - 1) From cold out in the street right into the palace of the King as His children
 - 2) Compare the Tabernacle and the separation from God

D) “Grace”

1. Grace and not wrath- Rom 6:14- No longer “under law” but now “under grace”
 - a) Before the “introduction” we were rightly dealt with as God’s Own Law demands
 - 1) But Christ has fulfilled that Law and its demands and has forever removed the veil that separated us from God the Father
 - 2) Whereas He once had to judge us in wrath, due to His Own holiness, now He receives us gladly as children through the propitiation of Christ
 - 3) “Grace wherein we stand” - state of justification
 - 4) Heb 10:19-25- Come boldly (confidently) to throne of grace
 - (a) Heb 12:18-24- Mount Sinai -vs- Mt Zion
 - (b) Heb 4:16- Draw near with confidence in the permanent peace Christ has provided
 - (1) As the Israelites passed through the Red Sea
 - 5) 1 Pet 3:18- This is the work of Christ to “bring us to God” now and eternally
2. Grace- “The communication of the love of God to men, and the specific and individualized gifts which come out of that great reservoir of patient, pardoning, condescending and bestowing love” - Alexander Maclaren
 - a) 2 Pet 1:3- “All things that pertain unto life and godliness”
 - 1) The believer has past from his worldly citizenship into the very Kingdom of God and the family of God and is now under the providential care of the Almighty
 - (a) Matt 6:25-34- God’s faithful care of His children
 - (1) We can be confident that the God of creation will provide for us all that is NEEDED (physical and spiritual)
 - (b) 2 Cor 9:8- God is able to make all grace abound toward us
 - (c) Phil 4:19- God shall supply all our need
 - (d) Psa 37:25- David had not seen the righteous begging bread
 - 2) John 4:13-14- A well of living water
 - (a) John 6:35- Never hunger of Bread of Life
 - (1) Grace out-poured is not for riches and prosperity or success in this world, although a saint may have that; but grace is for

- righteousness, understanding, support, comfort in tribulation, perseverance, the continual consciousness of the love of God
 - (2) 1 Pet 4:10- Stewards of God's grace
 - (3) Access to the spiritual "treasure house" of God
 - b) A good test of this is our prayer life
 - 1) Eph 2:18 & 3:12- Both refer to access in prayer
 - 2) Do we come before God confidently, and desiring the things of His treasure house faithfully?
 - (a) Or do we live as paupers, spending all our time trying to convince ourselves He hears us at all?
 - (b) Do we trust our "introduction?"
 - 3) Heb 10:22- "The full assurance of faith"
 - (a) Col 2:2- "The full assurance of understanding"

III. "Wherein we stand"

- A) This is the key to full assurance
 - 1. We do not go "in and out" of this grace, a true believer was "under law" and has passed to the position of "under grace" permanently because of the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ
- B) Stand- "to be made to stand-fast," "firmly placed," "firmly established/fixed," "placed permanently," "sure footing"
 - 1. The believer must learn to constantly look at Christ and not at self, otherwise our position becomes uncertain in our own minds, but never with God
 - a) As Peter walking on the water
 - b) Rom 8:38-39- Paul's summary of this entire section
 - 2. The believer cannot "fall from grace" in his relationship to God
 - a) Gal 5:1-4- Paul is using the term in relation to those that in their thinking had returned to justification by works
 - 3. Matt 7:24-27- Our standing depends upon what sort of footing and foundation we have
 - a) We must depend completely upon Christ and not on self, otherwise we sink under testing
 - 1) Rom 14:4- God is able to make us stand, even if we are weak in faith
 - 4. Paul was very fond of this term "stand"
 - a) 1 Cor 15:1- The gospel wherein ye stand
 - b) 2 Cor 1:24- By faith ye stand
 - c) Eph 6:11-14- Stand, stand, stand
 - d) 2 Tim 2:19- The Lord knows His and makes them stand
 - e) Jude 24- "present" = "stand"