



SERMON TEXT: Romans 5:6-11

Vs. 1 - Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Vs. 2 - through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Vs. 3 - Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

Vs. 4 - perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Vs. 5 - And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Vs. 6 - You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

Vs. 7 - Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die.

Vs. 8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

GREETING: I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

In the Book of the Bible entitled “Romans” the first verse of the book of Romans, tells us who the inspired writer is / was.

“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the Gospel of God.” (**Rom. 1:1-NIV**)

In **Romans 1:7** – we learn which group of people this letter is addressed to:

“To **all** in Rome who are loved by God and called to be **saints**.” - Penned About 57 A.D.

And so the Book of Romans is a letter to the believers living in the city of Rome.

The believers living in the city of Rome were living in a city surrounded by unbelief and sinful practices:

There were those who denied / rejected that God existed. – Romans 1:18-20

There were those who made idols in the image of birds, animals, reptiles and even human beings. Rom. 1:21-23

There was the sin of sexual immorality which involved sex other than the God given way – Romans 1:24-27 of one man and one woman in the bounds of marriage (Genesis 1:26-28, Gen. 2:20-25)..

It was to their sinful ways that God gave them over to a depraved mind. – Romans 1:28-32.

This deprived state of mind led to sins as listed in Romans 1:29-31 – “Every kind of wickedness, evil greed envy murder strife, deceit, malice, gossips, slanderers, God haters, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventing ways of doing evil, disobeying their parents, senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.”

This is a pretty nasty list of what type of things were going on in Rome at the time of the Apostle Paul. Do any of those things sound similar to our own day and time?

And so, as the believers in Rome experience and witnessed the terrible things going on in their community, we can imagine that it would have been emotionally, mentally and spiritually difficult.

It is in the midst of those difficulties that the Apostle Paul is led to write things such as we have for our sermon text today. (Romans 5:1-8)

**Vs. 1** - Therefore, since we have been **justified** - δικαιωθεντες - through faith, we have **peace** - ειρηνην - with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

In the midst of turmoil in their life, the believers have peace with God.

Even if the rest of the world lacks peace, it is through, and because of Christ Jesus that there is peace with God.

This peace exists because through Christ Jesus we are declared NOT guilty of all our sin, and we have gained access to God's grace.

**Vs. 2** - through whom we have **gained access** by faith into **this grace** in which we **now** stand. And we rejoice in **the hope of the glory of God**.

I am NOW standing in the pulpit. You are NOW sitting in the pew or at home.

We NOW stand in the Hope of the glory of God.

What is that hope? It is the sure and certain hope of living forever in heaven.

**Titus 1:2** In **hope of eternal life**, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

**Titus 2:13** Looking for **that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God** and our Savior Jesus Christ;

**Titus 3:7** That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the **hope of eternal life**.

Therefore, since we have this sure and certain hope of heaven in Christ Jesus, God, through the Apostle Paul tells us that we can not only rejoice in the hope of heaven but to the surprise of our human minds:

**Vs. 3** - Not only so, but we also **rejoice** - καυχωμεθα (boast) - in our sufferings / afflictions - θλιψεσιν -, What benefit do the sufferings of life give?

**Vs. 3** - because we know that suffering produces perseverance; - υπομονην - (Patient endurance in all situations)

**Vs. 4** - perseverance, character / worth / experience - δοκιμην -; and character, hope. - ελπιδα -

In a Commentary on Romans by Martin Luther he writes: (English translation of course) "Tribulation does not make people impatient, but proves that they are impatient. So, everyone may learn from tribulation how their heart is constituted (Comprised / what it is made of)." (pg. 91)

And Martin Luther continues: "Tribulation takes from mankind everything (in which they trust) and leaves them naked and destitute. It also prevents mankind from seeking help and salvation in their own temporal and spiritual good works."

Tribulation leads people to say with the Psalmist: "**But You are a shield around me O Lord; You bestow glory on me and lift up my head.**" (Ps. 3:3)

Thus we place our hope in God.

**Vs. 5** - And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured (Baptism) out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. (see also Romans 10:17)

**Vs. 6** - You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

Who are the ungodly?

We heard that list back in Romans chapter 1:29-31, it includes us all as we see verse 8.

**Vs. 8** - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, **Christ died for us**.

Did you notice how the Apostle Paul includes himself in the ungodly by using the pronoun "US"? When Jesus hung on the cross, everyone was on His Mind, you were on His Mind. AMEN

**THEME: Christ Died for Sinners – Our Only Hope.**