

BECAUSE YOU ARE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH

ROMANS 5:1, 2

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: “Justification is one act, and it is once and forever...in which God declares...that in Christ He regards us as if we had never sinned at all. He pronounces that we are just and righteous in and through the Lord Jesus Christ. Our sins are forgiven, we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, and God declares that.” D M. Lloyd-Jones, Romans: Assurance (5), p.31.

YOU HAVE PEACE WITH GOD. Because God is holy, sin can't exist in His presence. God loves you, but His justice demands that the penalty for your sin (death) must be paid. God has met His requirement for justice by having His Son die instead of you for your sin. You now have peace with God and can experience and enjoy His presence. (**Romans 5:1, fn 5:1, Romans 5:9-11, fn 5:11, Romans 1:18, fn 1:18, Colossians 1:20-23, fn 1:20, Luke 2:14**) *Why did peace with God mark the beginning of your salvation?*

YOU STAND IN GRACE. Not only are you justified by grace through faith, but you stand in grace and not your abilities, good works, church attendance, or law-keeping. Grace is God's loving kindness and unmerited favor. Because you are now clothed with the righteousness of Christ, God looks upon you with favor. He not only accepts you but delights to receive and bless you. Lloyd Jones, p. 33. (**Romans 5:2, fn 5:2, Romans 5:17, Hebrews 4:14-16, fn 4:14, fn 4:16, Ephesians 3:12, fn 3:12, I Timothy 2:5**) *Describe how grace could help you in each activity of your day.*

YOU REJOICE IN HOPE of the glory of God. “The Christian has no reason to fear the future and every reason to rejoice in it, because he has the divinely-secured **hope** that his ultimate destiny is to share in the very **glory of God.**” John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Romans 1-8, p.279. “Hope is the confidence that what God has done in the past guarantees our participation in what God will do in the future.” Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, p. 780. (**Romans 5:2b, fn 5:2-5, I John 3:2, 3, fn 3:2, 3, I Corinthians 15:35-53, fn 15:42-44, Philippians 3:20, 21, fn 3:21, II Corinthians 5:17**) *How does your life in Christ give you confidence and the hope of heaven with Christ?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.

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