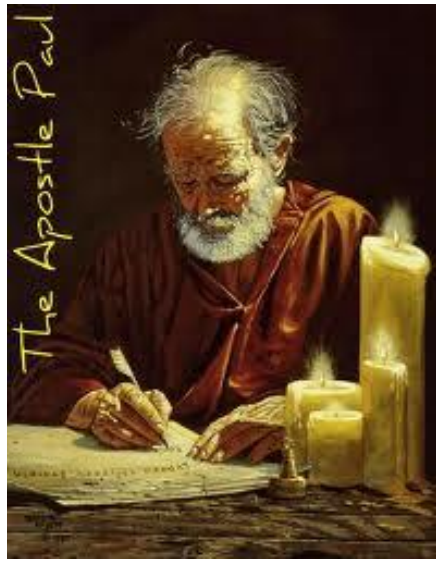




Paul's Letter to the Romans

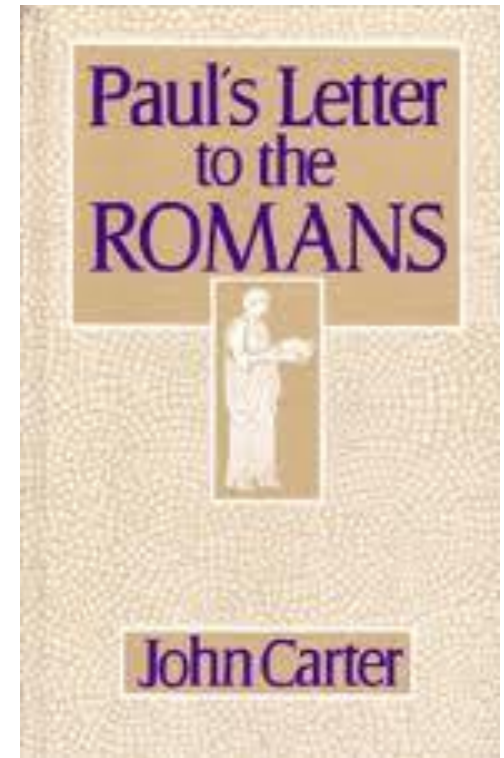


Chapter 4

**Even Abraham & David were
justified by Faith
apart from law**



Study Aids on Romans



**John Martin has
67 classes on Romans
that are on
ChristadelphianBibleTalks.com**



Strategy of Romans



Rom 1: The Gospel of God – Power of God to Salvation by Faith.

History shows Gentiles could not attain God's righteousness

Rom 2: History shows Jews could not attain God's righteousness and were more accountable because they had God's Law

Rom 3 God's atonement: justification by faith

This provides us with a logical way of explaining the Atonement

In Romans 4....



Paul provides O.T. support for his gospel of salvation by faith by using two examples of highly respected faithful men who were justified by faith, not by deeds of the law



Remember their names ???

Paul's conclusion in Romans 3

Romans 3:28

Therefore we **conclude**
that a man is **justified by**
faith **apart from the deeds**
of the law.

This is what Paul has been aiming at all through Romans 1-3, and it's all of God



The Jews' Challenge: Where's the Bible proof Paul?



- Paul....this is some new idea!
- Where's the OT support for salvation by faith & the grace of God?



Where would YOU
go in the OT to
support salvation by
Faith apart from
the Law?



Paul's OT Support for justification by Faith



- **Abraham – our father** *“a man is justified by faith”*
 - He believed God & God counted it as righteousness
 - If Abraham had done some work, God would have paid him wages, but it was God's grace (v.4)
- **David:** *“not by deeds of the law”*
 - Committed adultery & murder – no sacrifice for these
 - Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes righteousness apart from works (v.6)
- **Abraham:** *had righteousness of faith while uncircumcised*
 - How do we know for sure God's grace is for the uncircumcised too?
 - Abraham was counted righteous by grace, before he was circumcised! (v.10)

Two highly respected examples

The proof with Abraham

Romans 4:1-5

What then shall we say that **Abraham** our father has found according to the flesh? 2 For **if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about [around people]**, but not before God. 3 **For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."** [Gen 15:6] 4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. 5 But to him who does not work but **believes on Him** who justifies the **ungodly [Abraham, David & all of us!]**, **his faith is accounted for righteousness,**

**God counted Abraham righteous
because of his Faith**



**Abraham believed God.....
It was accounted to him
for righteousness (v.3)**

- **If Abraham had done works,** he would have had something to boast about [*not before God*] (2)
- **To him who works,** the wages are due as a debt – not accounted as grace (4)
- **Faith is counted** [*same word as “imputed”*] **as righteousness** if we believe on Him who justifies the ungodly (5)



**David is one of “the ungodly”
and so are we!**

Abraham believed the Lord (Gen 15:6)



- The one who will come from your own body will be your heir (15:4)
- Count the stars... so will your descendants be (v.5)
- Abraham believed the Lord & He *counted* it to him for righteousness (v.6)
- Abraham believed God would do in him what was humanly impossible

**“Against all hope, in hope
Abraham believed” (Rom 4:18)**

The proof with David

Romans 4:6-8

6 just as **David** also describes the blessedness of the man **to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:**

Psalm 32:1-2

7 "Blessed are those whose **lawless deeds** are **forgiven**, and **whose sins are covered;**

8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord **shall not impute sin."**

God forgave David's sins & counted him righteous because of his Faith

David describes the blessedness



- To whom God imputes [counts] righteousness apart from works [of law - 3:28] (v.6)
- Quotes from Psalm 32 – about sin with Bathsheba
 - I acknowledged my sin to You...and You *forgave* the iniquity of my sin (32:5)
 - For this cause everyone who is *godly* shall pray to you (32:6)
 - He who trusts in the Lord, *mercy* shall surround him (32:10)

David knew he was forgiven by God's grace



Abraham & David:

Positive & Negative examples



- **Positive:** Abraham [before the Law] had righteousness imputed to him (Gen. 15:6; Rom 4:3)
- **Negative:** David [under the Law] did not have sin imputed to him (Psa 32:2; Rom 4:8)

Our faith can be counted as
righteousness, and it allows
God to not count our sins!



Abraham & David:

Positive & Negative examples



- **Positive:** Abraham had righteousness imputed to him (Gen. 15:6; Rom 4:3)
- **Negative:** David did not have sin imputed to him (Psa 32:2; Rom 4:8)

Our faith can be counted as righteousness, and it allows God to not count our sins!

Circumcision is not necessary for justification

Romans 4:9-12

9 Does this blessedness [*forgiveness*] then come upon the **circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also?** For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness [*God forgave his sins*]. 10 How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? **Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised.** 11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the **father of all those who believe [Gentiles], though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also,** 12 and the **father of circumcision [Jews]** to those who not only are of the circumcision, **but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised.**

**God counted Abraham righteous by
Faith before he was circumcised!**

Paul knows the Jews will think David's blessedness is only for Jews!



- **Abraham was counted righteous by faith** before he was circumcised! (v.10)
- **Circumcision was only a seal** of the righteousness by faith Abraham had before he was circumcised (v.11)
- **Abraham is the father of ALL who believe (*have faith*)**
 - **Uncircumcised:** righteousness is imputed by faith
 - **Circumcised:** must also walk in the steps of the faith Abraham had before he was circumcised

Everyone must have Abraham's kind of faith he had before he was circumcised!

Walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised



- **Gen 13:17** “walk in the land”
 - **Gen 17:1** “walk before Me and be blameless”
- Both were before Abraham was circumcised*
- **Caleb:** a gentile who walked through Abraham’s area (Hebron) and asked Joshua to give it to him for an inheritance (Josh 14)

**We must walk in the steps of
the faith of Abraham – without
this we cannot please God**

We have been spiritually circumcised

Colossians 2:11-13

11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, **by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,** **12 buried with Him in baptism,** in which you also were **raised with Him through faith in the working of God,** who raised Him from the dead. **13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,**

God is able to do the impossible in us

God's Promise was above the Law

Romans 4:13-16

13 For the **promise** that he would be **the heir of the world** was **not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.** 14 For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect, 15 because **the law brings about wrath;** for where there is no law there is no transgression. *[The Law increased sin]*

16 **Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace,** so that **the promise might be sure to all the seed,** not only to those who are of the law, but also **to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.**

God's promise was 430 years before the law and supersedes the law so everyone who is of Abraham's faith can be counted righteous

The Promise was through the righteousness of Faith



- **Promise** Abraham would be heir of the **world came by the righteousness of faith** (v.13) – nothing else to get by law!
- If you could earn the inheritance by works of law, then the promise is void (v.14)
- **Law brings wrath** (v.15) – it unveils Sin (Gal 3:19)
- **Promise is of our faith**, given according to God's grace – so it will be sure for ALL the seed (v.16)

So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham (Gal 3:9)

Inheritance came by God's Promise

Galatians 3:18

18 For **if the inheritance is of the law**, it is no longer of promise; but **God gave it to Abraham by promise.**

It's totally of God.

Humans cannot do anything to deserve or earn God's promise

**When you teach the
Truth to others and
cover the promises
to Abraham....**



**Do you teach that the
promises are on the basis
of the righteousness of
faith – by God's grace? –
*that the promise might be
sure to all the seed!***



This was Paul's gospel!

Faith allows us to see the invisible

Romans 4:17-22

17 (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") **in the presence of Him whom he believed — God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;** 18 who, contrary to hope, **in hope believed, so that he became** the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." 19 And **not being weak in faith,** he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. 20 He did not waver at **the promise of God** through **unbelief** [*so his laugh was not in unbelief*], but was strengthened in **faith, giving glory to God,** 21 and **being fully convinced** that **what He had promised He was also able to perform.** 22 **And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."**

Faith to believe God will do the impossible!

How do we know for sure God intended Gentiles to be part of the Promise?

- **OT proof: (v.17)** “I have made you the father of *many nations*” (Gen17:5) [*uncircumcised!*]
- **Abraham had the faith to be convinced God would do what humanly impossible** – allow 100 year old man and 90 year old Sarah to have a child
- **Faith empowers us to trust God will do in us what He promises**, and it allows us to see what is invisible – “so shall your descendants be”



And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed: (Gal 3:8)"

The Faith of Abraham: father of us all



- He believed in **God who gives life to the dead**, and calls those **things which do not exist as though they did** [see the invisible] (v.17)
- Contrary to hope (all hope in the flesh was gone!), **in hope, he believed** (v.18)
- **Not being weak in faith**, he did not consider his own body – already dead – and the deadness of Sarah's womb (v.19)
- **He did not waver at the promise of God** through unbelief (v.20)
- **Being fully convinced that God was able** to perform what He promised (v.21)

This is the faith that leads to obedience (Rom 1:5) & allows God to impute righteousness

Why does God value Faith so much?



- **Acknowledges our own inability** to save ourselves – humility
- **Gives all the glory to God** (Rom 4:20)
- **Personal relationship:** Trusts God, as our Father, to do what He promises for His children – save us into His eternal family.

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. (Rom 8:28)

- **Evidence of things not seen** – God working in our lives through Angels to accomplish His plan (Heb 11:1, 27)
- **Must believe (have faith) that God is**, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him (Heb 11:6)
- **Faith is what motivated Jesus to trust his Father in everything** and it must motivate us too (Heb 12:1)

Without Faith it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6)

We must have Abraham's Faith

Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this reason [*the inclusion of Gentiles*] I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 **that He would grant you,** according to the riches of His glory, **to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,** 17 **that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;** that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height — 19 **to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.**

20 **Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,** 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

God can & will do the impossible in us too!

Abraham is our Model

Romans 4:23-25

23 Now it was **not written for his sake** alone that it was imputed to him, 24 **but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead,** 25 who was **delivered up because of our offenses,** and **was raised because of our justification.**

God has given Jesus the authority to justify all those who are of Abraham's faith

Careful Bible reading: “imputed”



- **Paul says it was not written only for Abraham's sake**, but for ours too! (v.23-24)
- **Important spiritual concept** – Like Melchizedek & Abraham (Gen 14), Abraham & Isaac (Gen 22)
- **Implies we cannot earn our salvation**, and it must be by the grace of God
- **It will be imputed to us who have faith** in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead (Rom 4:24)
[like Abraham believed God would raise up his body to have a child]

Read the Bible carefully!

Delivered up because of our Offenses, raised because of our Justification

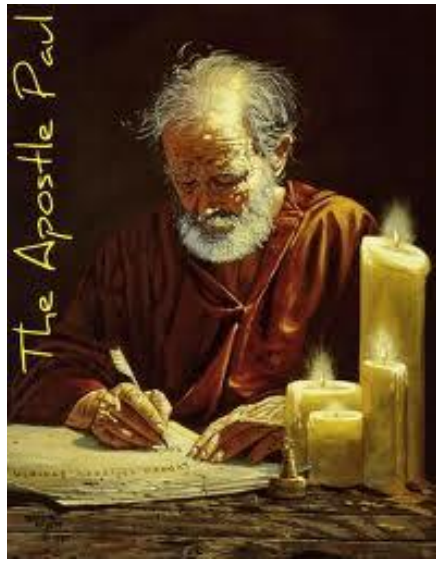


- **Both words are expanded in Rom 5**
 - Offenses: vs. 15, 16, 17, 18, 20
 - Justification: vs. 1, 9, 16, 18
- **Jesus was delivered up** so “that he by the grace of God might taste death for everyone” (Heb 2:9) “That he might destroy him that has the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage (Heb 2:15)



- **He was raised for our “justification of life” (Rom 5:18)** – so we can be pronounced innocent and granted eternal life.

**“brought life and immortality
to light” (2 Tim 1:10)**



Paul's Letter to the Romans

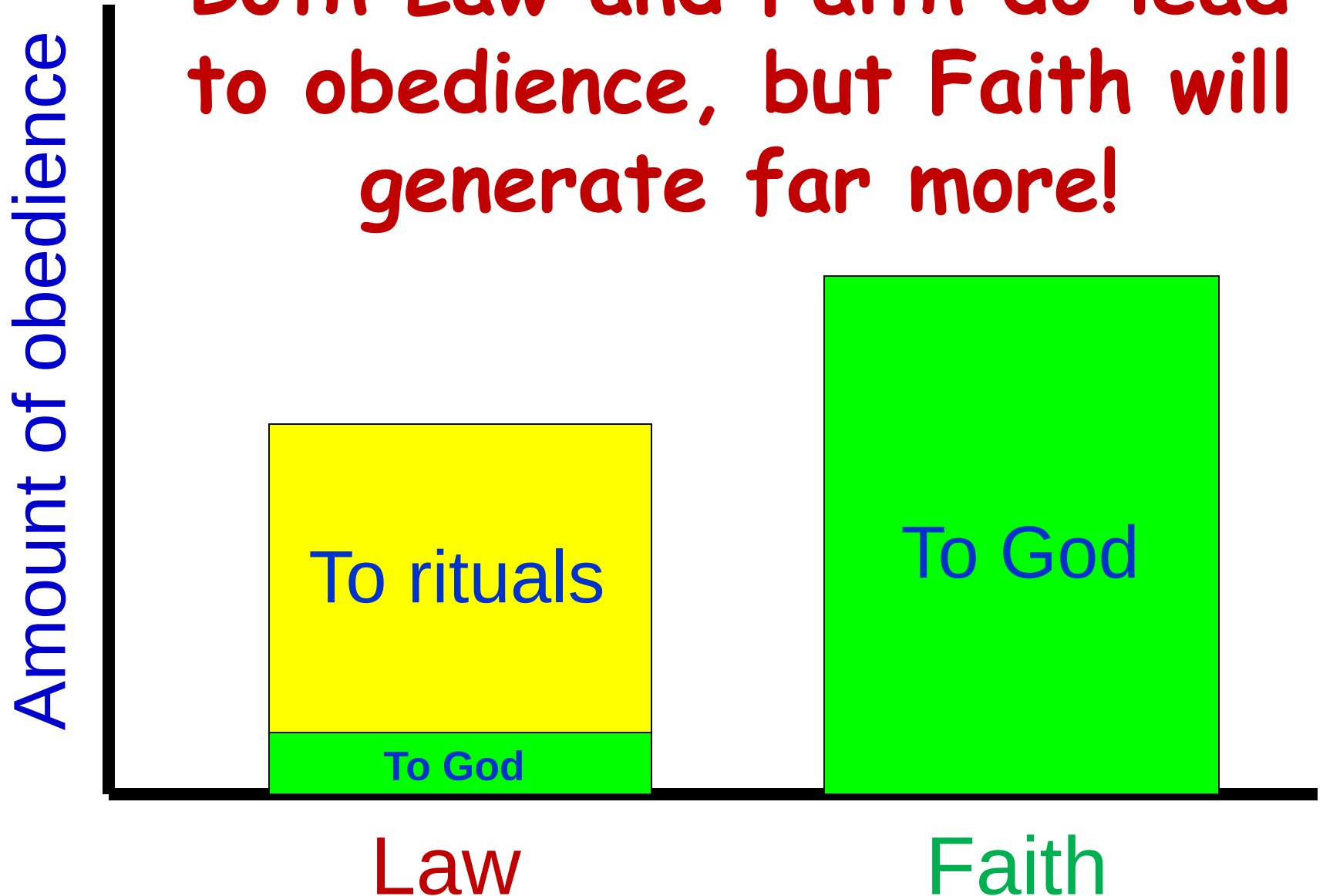


Chapter 5

**God's love for us
caused Him to give
His Son so He could
Justify us by Faith**



Both Law and Faith do lead to obedience, but Faith will generate far more!





Strategy of Romans



Rom 1: The Gospel of God – Power of God to Salvation by Faith.

History shows Gentiles could not attain God's righteousness

Rom 2: History shows Jews could not attain God's righteousness and were more accountable because they had God's Law

Rom 3 God's atonement: justification by faith

Rom 4 OT proof of justification by faith

Rom 5 God's love for us caused Him to justify us by faith & gift us more than Adam lost

This provides us with a logical way of explaining the Atonement

Personal Benefits of Justification by Faith

Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, having been **justified by faith**, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also **we have access by faith into this grace** in which we stand, and **rejoice in hope of the glory of God**. 3 And not only that, but we also **glory in tribulations**, knowing that tribulation produces **perseverance**; 4 and perseverance, **character**; and character, **hope**. 5 Now hope does not disappoint, because **the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit** who was given to us. *[through the teachings of the Holy Spirit]*

**Tribulations are essential in
God's training program to save us**

Romans 1-4 were the doctrinal side of the atonement, Romans 5 is the emotional
What key word finally shows up in Rom 5?

Love



BUT GOD
DEMONSTRATES
HIS OWN
LOVE TOWARD US

IN THAT WHILE
WE WERE
STILL SINNERS,
CHRIST DIED FOR US.

ROMANS 5:8

Why wait till Romans 5 to introduce God's love?

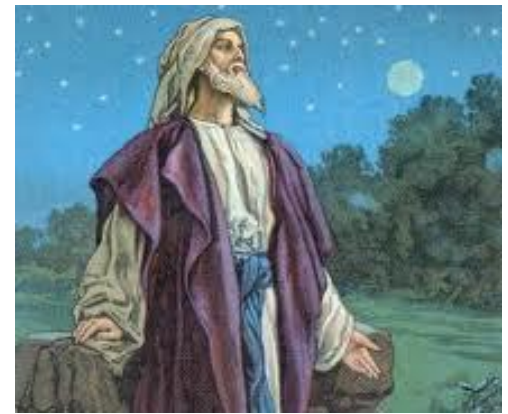


Paul wanted to make sure the emotional component of God's atonement was based on truth revealed in God's word

Otherwise we might follow an emotional feeling down a pathway of error!

But don't leave out God's Love!

Benefits for Us to be justified by faith



- We have **peace** with God (v.1)
 - Eph 2:14-17; Col 1:20
- We have access by **faith** into this **grace** (v.2)
- We rejoice in **hope** of the glory of God (v.2)
- We glory in tribulations: they produce perseverance, character, hope (v.3-4)
 - Tribulations are the beginning of the process that end with us sharing the glory of God (v.2, cp 3:23)
- The **love** of God has been poured in our hearts by the Holy Spirit (v.5) – see Rom 8:1-17

Faith...Hope...Love

God didn't wait for us to deserve it

Romans 5:6-11

6 For when we were still **without strength**, in due **time** *[at just the right time (NIV)]* Christ died for the **ungodly**. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 **But God demonstrates His own love toward us**, in that while we were still **sinners**, **Christ died for us**. 9 Much more then, having now been **justified by His blood**, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when **we** were **enemies** we were reconciled to God **through the death of His Son**, much more, having been reconciled, **we shall be saved by His life**. 11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom **we have now received the reconciliation**.

**This should make us respond to God's love
& gives us a model for how we treat others**

Feel the depth of God's Love

Rom 5:6-8



- While we were **without strength**
- **In due time** [when both Jews & Gentiles were ungodly & hopeless] (Rom 1-2)
- Christ died for the **ungodly**
- Humans might *dare* to die for a good person – God calculated for 4,000 years His son would die!
- **God's love caused him to design a plan** He considered for 1000s of years that involved His Son dying for **sinners**!
- When we were **enemies** we were reconciled (10)

God's love was real, calculated, cost Him & for humans who didn't deserve it!
[more on this in Romans 8]

God made the effort

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

18 Now **all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ,** and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, **that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them,** and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

It's all of God, motivated by His Love

**God has done the hard part....
the rest will be easy for Him**



Note the parallels of verses 9-10

9 Since we have now been **justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!** 10 For if, when we were God's enemies, **we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!** *(expanded in Rom 6:4-11)*

God reconciled us while we were enemies! He will save us for sure!

The Wrath of God in Romans

- 1:18** the **wrath** of God **is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness**
- 2:5** you are treasuring up for yourself **wrath** in **the day of wrath** and revelation of the righteous judgment of God
- 2:6, 8** who will render to each one **according to his deeds...** but to those who... obey unrighteousness - indignation and **wrath**
- 3:5** Is God unjust who inflicts **wrath**? (I speak as a man.)
- 4:15** because the law brings about **wrath**
- 5:9** having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from **wrath**
- 9:22** What if God, wanting to show His **wrath** and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of **wrath** prepared for destruction
- 12:19** Beloved, **do not avenge yourselves**, but rather give place to **wrath**; for it is written, "**Vengeance is Mine, I will repay**," says the Lord.
- 13:4** **for he is God's minister**, an avenger to execute **wrath** on him who practices evil.
- 13:5** Therefore you must be subject, not only because of **wrath** but also for conscience' sake.

Knowledge brings responsibility to God

God's Atonement



God's love provides a free gift
(by grace) that makes us at peace
with Him because He mercifully
justifies us (forgives us) when we
have the faith of Jesus

Motivating Power of God's Love

The rest of Romans 5 explains why God's loving gift of grace is so much more generous than the condemnation that came from Adam's sin



Don't analyze an individual tree so much that you miss the beauty of the forest!



Adam's Sin had affect on everyone

Romans 5:12-14

12 Therefore, just as **through one man sin entered the world**, and **death through sin**, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned — 13 (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless **death reigned from Adam to Moses**, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type [*or pattern*] of Him who was to come.

Sin had the power to bring death to all

Death reigned (Rom 5:12-14 RSV)

12 Therefore as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, **so death spread to all men because all men sinned** - 13 sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law [*no death penalty law*]. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, **even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.**



Adam's sin condemned everyone to die, even though they did not commit Adam's same sin

Why this section on how sin entered the world? (vs 12-14)



- **Many Jews thought God punished us** for the sins of our fathers (Ezek 18:2; John 9:2)
- **Paul shows that we inherit the consequences** of Adam's sin, but not the guilt.
- **We rightly deserve death, because we sin** – even if our sin is not exactly like Adam's (he violated a direct command that had a death penalty!) – **some Jews felt they were not as bad as Adam!**

Sin reigned in death (5:14,17,21) as people got what they deserved. Sin paid out wages (6:23)

Not so with the free gift!



Adam & Christ are both representatives of many



- **Adam is a pattern of Christ (v.14)** – He was a representative of the human race and did things that affected all men
- **Paul uses Adam's sin to contrast God's free gift** (vs 15-17), then looks at the **similarity** of Adam & Christ (vs 18-19, 21)

Adam & Christ were Federal Heads

DEATH REIGNED FROM ADAM TO MOSES



Adam

Moses

No law with death penalty – yet death reigned

There still was sin – but not like Adam's sin

Violated
direct
command
with death
sentence

People still sinned during this period
and did deserve death

Law of
Moses
had
death
sentences

The wages of Sin is Death (6:23)

Contrast Adam's sin with Christ's grace

Romans 5:15-17

15 But **the free gift is not like the offense.** For if by the **one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.** 16 And **the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.** 17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, **much more** those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

God's Free Gift is so much greater than just removing the results of Adam's sin



Free Gift is not like Adam's sin (v.15)



- Many died because of one man's sin (and these deserved death because they all sinned too!)
- **Much more** the grace of God & free gift of grace through Jesus **have abounded** to the many (God has given eternal life to those who do not deserve it!)

**We deserve
death, but
don't deserve
eternal life!**



**Adam didn't
lose eternal
life, but
Christ gives us
eternal life**

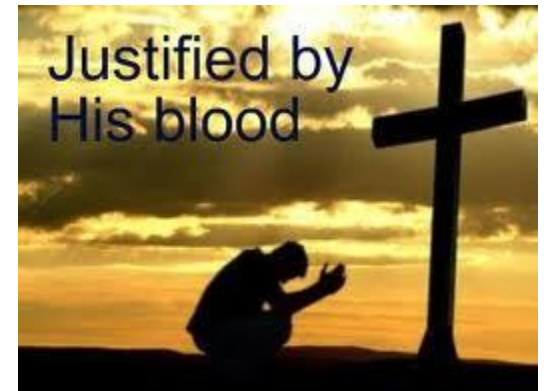


Free Gift is not like Adam's sin (v.16)



- Judgment from **one sin** brought **condemnation**

- Free gift followed **many sins** and brought **justification**



God's gift of grace is generous!



Free Gift is not like Adam's sin (v.17)



By Adam's sin **death**
reigned through the one



**Much more those who receive
abundance** of grace & of the gift
of righteousness **will reign in life**
through Jesus (immortality – v. 21)

**God's gift will empower us to reign in life
because we are no longer enslaved to sin!**

The Gift
of God is
eternal
Life, in
Christ
Jesus our
Lord
(6:23)



God's Gift
to us is
totally out
of
proportion
in relation
to what
Adam lost

Similarity of Adam's sin & Christ's grace

Romans 5:18-21

18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, 21 so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God deals with the "many" based on one act of our representative man



**Adam and Christ both
impacted “the many”**

Romans 5:18-19 (TNIV)



18 Consequently, **just as one trespass resulted** in condemnation for all people, **so also one righteous act resulted** in justification and life for all. 19 For **just as** through **the disobedience of the one man the many** were made sinners, **so also** through **the obedience of the one man the many** will be made righteous.

**God treated both men as
representatives of the many**



**Is the power of God's love
strong enough to motivate
you to die to sin?**

Galatians 2:20-21 (NASB)

"I have been crucified with Christ; **and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. 21 "I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

Love is God's ultimate motivator

God's Grace: It's more than enough! (v.20)

- **The effect of the Law** was to make sin more obvious
- **When sin increased**, grace increased even more
- **As sin reigned in death**, grace will reign through righteousness to eternal life through Christ



Nothing additional required!



So....should we go on sinning that grace may increase?

Let God's love change how you live

Romans 12:9-21

9 **Let love be without hypocrisy.** Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. 10 **Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;** 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; 13 **distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.**

14 **Bless those who persecute you;** bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 16 **Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.**

17 **Repay no one evil for evil.** Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 **If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.** 19 **Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.** 20 Therefore

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink;
For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**Treat others the way God's love
caused Him to treat us**

God loved us, so love your neighbor

Romans 13:8-10

Love Your Neighbor, as God loves you

8 Owe no one anything **except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.** 9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, **"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."** 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Put on Christ & fight the desires of the flesh as he did, to declare God right

Christ died to draw us from Sin

Romans 13:11-14

Put on Christ, fight the flesh & walk in the light

11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to **awake out of sleep**; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and **let us put on the armor of light**. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, **not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy**. 14 But **put on the Lord Jesus Christ**, and **make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts**.

Put on Christ & fight the desires of the flesh as he did, to declare God right

Lessons from This Class

- We must develop the faith of Abraham – believe God can do the impossible in us!
- God can & will forgive us for sins the Law was not able to provide any atonement, if we repent in faith.
- We can glory in our tribulations, confident that God is using them to develop our faith to justify us.
- God's free gift gives us so much more than Adam ever lost – we must respond to God's love!
- If God so loved us, we must love one another and grant each other mercy like God does for us.

Next Class.....

Since God's love has
done so much for us...



In Romans 6, Paul
shows how we can
become identified with
Jesus and receive all
the benefits of God's
gift of grace.

