



Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline

Pastor Philip Thomas, August 29, 2021

Romans 5:1-11 – Now That We Have Been Justified

We Learn:

After explaining justification by faith in Romans 4, Paul fittingly begins Romans 5 with the phrase, “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith...” He goes on to list the consequences of being justified by faith: peace *with* God, access by faith into this grace in which we now stand, and hope of the glory of God. But he also lists an unexpected consequence of our new reality in Christ Jesus, “we also glory in our sufferings.” The Bible makes it clear that everyone suffers in this world. The difference for a child of God, one who is justified by faith, is how they endure suffering. The difference for a child of God is that suffering produces perseverance which produces character which produces hope.

- Having been justified by faith what does it mean for us to have peace *with* God, access by faith into this grace in which we now stand, and hope of the glory of God?
- Why is it significant that Christ died for our sins while we were still sinners?
- Why is it difficult for us to accept suffering? What do we expect? Why do we think that way?
- What does it mean that suffering produces perseverance?
- What does it mean that perseverance produces character?
- What does it mean that character produces hope?

We Respond & Apply:

- How do we deal with the fact that Christianity does not provide all the reasons for suffering?
- Why is it important to understand that Christianity does provide all the resources for suffering?
- How is Jesus’ suffering able to help with us our own suffering?
- What does it mean that “Christ did not suffer so you wouldn’t suffer. He suffered so when you suffer you will become like him.” (Timothy Keller)?
- What is it that you are suffering? What are you going to do about it?