

The Benefits of Justification # 15

Romans 5: 1-5

It is evident by the world around us that society doesn't understand or appreciate our relationship with Christ. They cannot understand why we would give of our time on Sunday or Wednesday evenings to gather for worship. Why would we work all week and give of our hard earned money to the church? Many would argue there is no real benefit in being involved with the local church or serving the Lord.

I would never advocate serving the Lord solely for the benefits He provides, but there is no doubt that having a relationship with Christ is very beneficial. We do give of our time and our money, but a relationship with Christ is not one-sided. In fact, I am convinced we receive far more than we give. The benefits and blessings far outweigh any sacrifice we make. There is much reserved for us when this life is through, but we don't have to wait until we get to heaven to reap the benefits of salvation.

As we move through our text verses, I trust you will be reminded of the many [benefits](#) we have in Christ. If you've never been saved, I pray you will discover what you're missing. Let's examine: [The Benefits of Justification](#).

I. The Truth of Justification (1) – [Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ](#). Here Paul discusses the abiding truth of justification. He speaks of:

A. The Source (1a) – [Therefore being justified by faith](#)...He has spent much time refuting the doctrines of justification being obtained through fulfilling the mandates of the law, works of the flesh, and keeping of ordinances. He had proclaimed time and again that justification is a matter of faith, not works. That great truth is emphasized again.

- We have discussed this on several occasions, but it bears repeating. The world seeks justification by a host of means. The idea of works achieving righteousness continues today. I trust we have grasped the truth concerning justification. It is obtained through faith. The very nature of justification eliminates works from the process. It is "*being declared righteous by God*." It isn't that we earned or deserved justification, but God declares us righteous through faith in Christ. We are accepted of God as the righteousness of Christ is imputed by faith.

B. The Serenity (1b) – [Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God](#). Paul seeks to amplify the benefits of justification by faith. Those who are justified experience peace with God. Realization of this truth is liberating. Many of the Jews sought to appease God through their works

or in keeping the law. They lived life hoping enough was accomplished to satisfy God, but there was never any real peace or rest. When they came to end of the way, they hoped their works would be enough, but there was no certainty.

- If there was any doubt, that line of thinking has been thoroughly refuted through our previous studies. We know that works cannot obtain righteousness. However many continue down that path. I have talked with folks about their eternal destiny, and some admit they *hope* they will be received of God. Very likely these are depending on works rather than living by faith. In salvation through faith, one can have peace with God.

- In sin we realize our condemned state. We know that God is holy and demands absolute righteousness. Prior to salvation we lived in fear of standing before God and facing His righteous judgment. Having been justified by faith, the fear is gone, being replaced with peace. I am not depending upon my works or deeds to appease God. I am depending on the fact that I have been declared righteous of God by faith. That results in genuine peace that will endure when one faces death or great difficulty! [Eph.2:14-15 – For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*; ^{\[15\]} Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace.*](#)

C. The Savior (1b) – [Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.](#) In case there was any doubt or lack of remembrance, Paul reminds the reader of the significance of Christ our Lord, Savior and Redeemer of our souls. Had Christ not come as the sacrifice for sin there would have been no atonement. Had He not bore our sin in His body, suffering the righteous judgment of God there would have been no appeasement for sin. There would be no salvation and we would yet remain in sin without hope. We are justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Being justified of God and possessing real peace with Him is only obtained through Christ. It is impossible to be justified apart from Christ. To deny Christ is to deny salvation, thus resulting in eternal condemnation. There is no alternate method of justification before God.

II. The Treasure of Justification (2) – [By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.](#) Consider this great treasure. We see:

A. Our Access (2a) – [By whom also we have access by faith into this grace...](#) Prior to the cross of Calvary, access to God was limited. He dwelt behind the veil of the temple. The high priest served as man's representative to God and the prophets served as God's representative to man. The

average person had no access to the presence of God. By justification in Christ through faith we now have access unto the Lord. As He fulfilled the work of redemption on the cross, the veil of the Temple was torn apart. The believer no longer has to depend on someone else to intercede on their behalf. We can directly and personally approach the throne of grace through Christ. [Heb.4:16](#) – Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. [Eph.3:12](#) – In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

B. Our Assurance (2b) – [By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand](#). Paul sought to instill great boldness in the faith within believers. In Christ there was no reason for fear. There was no reason for apprehension concerning works or personal achievement. The believer stands within the grace of God through Christ. We have been accepted into the beloved through salvation. We have full access to the throne of God. We can approach Him at any time, under any circumstance and make our requests known. Those who are born again in Christ are eternally secure in Him. We have been adopted into the family of God and that will never change!

- That offers great assurance in an ever changing world. There is much in this life that we can't depend on. Our lives deal with change and adversity continually. Institutions and services we thought were secure often change or completely fail. We have no fear in the Lord. We have been placed in His grip of grace and He will never leave nor forsake us. We can approach Him in full assurance of His ability to meet whatever need we have.

C. Our Abundance (2c) – [By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God](#). Paul simply reminds the believer of the eternal hope available in Christ. The world would continue to bring difficulty and disappointment. If we fix our eyes on the circumstances of life, it is easy to become discouraged. We are reminded of the glorious hope we have in the Lord. This life and the troubles associated with it will not last forever. We have the gracious promise of eternal life through Christ our Lord. He is coming again to take us to heaven, where we will dwell with Him eternally. We have reason to rejoice.

- I am convinced we cannot fully comprehend all we have in Christ, but I am aware of enough to create an attitude of rejoicing. I do not know what my future holds, but I know the Lord holds my future. Regardless of what I face, I am in Christ. One day I will fold this tent of flesh and enter His glorious presence. The world has nothing to offer that can compare with the abundance received in Christ!

III. The Triumph of Justification (3-5)

A. Our Perception (3a) – [And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also](#). Many of the believers in Paul's day faced great persecution for their faith. It was easy to focus on the difficulties and pain while missing the blessings of God. Paul reminds them to maintain a proper perspective. Troubles and trials would remain, but they didn't have to define their existence. Trouble and adversity may affect our physical and emotional state, but they don't change our spiritual standing. Christ is Lord of the storm as well. Even in the face of adversity, we can rejoice in our blessed hope! [Rom.8:28 – And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.](#)

B. Our Patience (3b-5a) – [And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;](#) ^[4] [And patience, experience; and experience, hope:](#) ^[5] [And hope maketh not ashamed.](#) Paul urges the believer to remain steadfast in trials. Don't give up, but patiently wait on the Lord. This reveals the benefit of trials in our lives. I know this is contrary to popular thinking, but it is biblical. Tribulations, literally *being crushed under pressure*, works patience in our lives. Patience speaks of "*bearing up under a load; endurance.*" As tribulations work patience, patience brings experience. Experience speaks of "*character, integrity, and strength.*" Experience makes us stronger as we walk with the Lord. Our experience results in hope. Hope speaks of "*desiring good with an expectation of receiving; confident anticipation.*" Hope never results in shame. It never disappoints, deceives, or confuses. Hope provides more confidence in Christ.

- Trials are difficult; and we don't enjoy them, but if we patiently endure, there is great benefit. We must learn to trust the Lord and follow Him.

C. Our Peace (5b) – [because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us](#). In our introduction we discussed the world's confusion regarding believers. They are also confused as they watch us endure trials. They cannot understand how we face adversity with such peace and confidence. Paul reveals the truth behind that here. We are filled with the love of God and guided by His Holy Spirit. We face nothing that God cannot handle and the Spirit cannot guide us through. Facing the troubles of life is never easy, but we can face them in full assurance of triumph in Christ. We are more than conquerors through Christ who loved us!

Conclusion: I hope you have gained a better understanding of the benefits of a relationship with Christ. There is much being prepared for us in heaven, but we are afforded great benefits in this life as well through Christ. There is no reason for a believer to miss out on the advantages available in Christ. They are available for all who seek Him. However, these benefits are reserved for those who know Christ as Lord through salvation. If you don't know Christ, you don't enjoy these benefits. Seek Him in salvation so that you too can obtain victory in Jesus!