Romans 6: Peace with God

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Date: 07 June 2020

Preacher: Reverend David MacLeod

[0:00] Good morning and a warm welcome to the service this morning.

If you're listening in on the telephone or if you're watching online, it's good for us to be able to come together to worship God in this way. Intimations, just a couple of things.

First to say that the service this evening will come online just before 6 o'clock this evening. And the service is next Sunday. I hope to take the morning service myself and I hope the evening service will be taken by Gordon McLeod, one of the elders here in the congregation.

I have meetings which I would normally be in Edinburgh attending and now I'm attending on Zoom. So I'm thankful to Gordon for stepping in to take the service. And I think it will probably be a welcome break for yourselves to see, not my face, week after week after week, but to see and hear the gospel through some of the elders in the congregation as well.

The prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at half past seven on Zoom, as usual. Donny Faith Mission will share a short word as part of that meeting as well.

[1:28] So be encouraged to come along to that. And it's been encouraging to see so many coming to the prayer meeting. And the Youth Fellowship meets again tonight, as usual, on Zoom at half past seven as well.

So please note that, young people. So these, I think, are all the intimations. And we'll begin this time of worship by singing to God's praise from Psalm 95, a psalm where we're called to come in worship of God.

O come, let us sing to the Lord. Come, let us, everyone, a joyful noise make to the rock of our salvation. Down to the end of verse six, we'll sing to God's praise.

O come, let us sing to the Lord.

Come, let us, everyone, a joyful noise make to the rock of our salvation.

[2:36] Let us, before his presence, come with praise and thankful voice.

Let us sing to him with praise and make a joyful noise.

For God, a great God and great King, above all God's ears.

Depths of the earth are in his hand. The strength of hills is his.

To him the spacious sea belongs. For he the same did make.

[4:01] The dry land also from his hands. Its form at first did take.

O come and let us worship him. Let us bow down with all.

And on our knees before the Lord. Our maker let us fall.

Let's unite our hearts in prayer. Let's pray together. Our heavenly Father, we thank you for this day. And we thank you for the invitation that we have sung and that we hear.

The command that we have to come in worship to the God who is our maker. Who is the creator of everything that we see, everything that we are. The God who is our sustainer.

[5:19] And the God who is our saviour. We thank you, Lord, that we come to you in the name of Jesus, confessing our sin, but trusting in Christ as our saviour.

We come, Lord, also thankful for the teaching that we have received from Jesus as to how we pray. And we thank you that we are able to come to you, the almighty God of heaven and earth.

And yet to come and call you our father, the one who is in heaven and yet who condescends to us as your children on this earth.

We thank you for Jesus who condescended from heaven, who left the realms of glory to come to this world. Who left the riches of heaven to come to the rags of this sinful, broken creation.

And we thank you that he came with that mission, with that purpose to seek and to save sinners. We thank you for his cross where our hope is found.

[6:22] We thank you that he laid down his life. He died so that we could live, so that we could be forgiven of our sin. And we thank you that all who look in faith to him are promised that salvation, are promised that hope of glory.

So help us, Lord, we pray, as we come together in worship to look to Jesus, to trust him as our saviour, to lean upon him as our sustainer.

And we ask that we would know him and know his presence daily as our friend, as the one who sticks closer than a brother. We pray for those who are struggling at this time, Lord.

We pray week by week for those that we are aware of and burdened for. And we come to you this week, Lord, and we ask again that you would have your hand upon those who are in particular need.

We think of those at this time who struggle with addictions. Those who may be tempted to drink. Those who gravitate towards drugs.

[7:25] Those who may have addictions in other areas. And we ask, Lord, that you would draw near to them. You are the God who is able to break the chains of sin. The chains of addiction that bind us.

And we pray for those who meet, who have met in past months here for the Road to Recovery meeting and who haven't been able to for some months now. We thank you, Lord, that they and we are able to meet with you.

Because you are the God who is everywhere and who calls, who responds to us as we call upon your name. And so we bring to you those who have these particular struggles.

And we ask, Lord, that you would come to them and that they would be looking to you. We pray for those who feel a sense of brokenness at this time. We have prayed for those who are grieving.

And we continue to pray for those who are grieving. We're conscious, Lord, of some who are missing. Those who have passed from time into eternity. Not in past days or weeks, but looking back over the years.

[8:29] We think of Donald and Roslyn and Donna as they think of a year back when they lost Anne. And also for John McSween, her uncle.

And the wider family. We bring them to you in prayer. We ask, Lord, that you would comfort them. That you would strengthen them. That you would uphold them at this time. We thank you that you are the God of all comfort.

The Father of all compassion. And we pray that they would know your compassion. We pray, Lord, for those who may feel a sense of brokenness and hopelessness.

Because they struggle in their mind with depression and anxious thoughts. And we thank you that we are able to come to you.

You are the God who tells us not to fret. But not only tells us not to fret. But promises to give us your peace as we come to you. And so for those who are anxious.

[9:25] For those who feel low. We bring them to you in prayer. For those who wrestle with complex relationships. And who are struggling with different problems in this world.

In terms of these relationships. We bring them to you also. And we ask, Lord, that you would be at work. And the lives of your people. We thank you that there is nothing that is too complicated that we cannot bring to you.

Nothing that is not possible, Lord, for you to save us in and from. So we pray, Lord.

We bring to you our prayers. What a friend we have in Jesus. We so often sing all our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.

So be at work, Lord, we pray, amongst us on this day. We pray for conversions as we have done in past weeks. In the prayer meeting and at the services here. We ask, Lord, that in this strange time where so much has changed in past months.

[10:31] We ask that you would be ministering amongst us in the power of your spirit. We pray that you would be giving to us repentance. That we would turn away from sin.

And that we would turn each of us in faith to Jesus. And we pray all of these things in Jesus' name. And for Jesus' sake. Amen. Boys and girls, I hope you are doing well at home.

I've got something to show you today. Something that I know probably too much about. And I expect most of you will enjoy having quite often.

What's this? Well, you know what this is, don't you? This is a delicious bar of chocolate. And the thing about chocolate is it's difficult to resist.

And we see this perfect bar here. But I have to tell you, what I want to do just now is I want to have a bite. But if I have a bite, then everyone will know that I've had a bite.

Because there will be a space in the bar. And then I'll be in trouble, won't I? Let's just count. How big is this bar? One, two, three, four.

One, two, three, four, five, six. So it's four across. And it's six up and down. And we've got all these different blocks there.

It looks delicious, doesn't it? So. Do you think I could have a bite? I'll have this. I'll have a bite. Mmm. Yeah, it is good.

Enjoying that. That was tasty. But now I'm in trouble. Because look.

Everybody can see that I've had a bite. So when I take this back home. And say, girls, I got a chocolate from the shop. But it's all to share. What they're going to say is, Ah, but you've had a bite.

[12:54] But watch this. This is a special bar of chocolate. Because if I just. If I just rearrange this a little bit. And if I just put that down there.

And if I take this. And put that there. It's perfect again. Isn't it? One, two, three, four.

One, two, three, four, five, six. A second ago. You could see that I had a bite out of it. But now it looks like a perfect bar of chocolate. So I think I'm safe enough to take this home.

And give it to the girls. Just don't tell them. Okay. I'm going to go back up here. So boys and girls. The chocolate over there. You think that bar really is a bar of everlasting chocolate?

Do you think it's really a bar of chocolate that's never going to run out? Well, I wish it was. But I don't think it is. I think if I took another block off. I wouldn't be able to get away with it.

You can get away with it with one block. But no more than that. It's not really a never running out bar of chocolate. It will run out. But do you know what won't ever run out?

What won't ever run out is God's grace. The chocolate we buy at the shop. That runs out. But what God gives us. It never runs out.

Remember in the wilderness. The children of Israel. When they're going through the wilderness after leaving Egypt. And they had no food. And so God said to them. I'll give you food.

And every day. The manna came down from heaven. And it was always enough. And they collected it. Every day. Or remember the story with the widow.

Who had the jar of oil. And God's servant Elijah. He asked her to make him a little bit of bread. And she said. But I've only got a wee bit of. I've only got a last little bit of oil in this jar.

[15:00] And he said. If you make the bread. God will make sure that you have enough oil. And this jar of oil. It was a never running out jar of oil. It was always enough.

And these are pictures of what God's grace is like. It never runs out. Paul who we're reading about in Romans. Or who wrote the letter to the Romans.

He was struggling at one point. He had a problem in his life. We're not quite sure what it was. And he was praying to God. And he was asking for help. And God said to him.

It's in 2 Corinthians chapter 12 and verse 9. But God said to him. My grace. Paul. Paul. It's all that you need. And God's grace for Paul.

It never ran out. And the good news for us. Is unlike that bar of chocolate. God's grace for us. It never runs out.

[15:57] We sin. But when we come to him. And we ask for forgiveness. He keeps on forgiving us. We sometimes get sad. And we come to him. And we ask for joy.

And he gives us joy. We can be anxious. And we can be worried. And we come to him. Like we might have done a thousand times before. And he gives us his peace. He gives us his love.

And he gives us his kindness. And his goodness. He gives us strength when we're feeling weak. He gives us perseverance to keep on keeping on. And all that God gives to us.

It never runs out. So boys and girls. Be encouraged to keep coming to God. As I need to keep coming to God. And asking him.

For the grace that saves us. And the grace that sustains us. That keeps us going. So let's pray. And ask God. To give us that grace.

[16:55] Lord God. We thank you. That you love us. And we thank you. That you're good gifts to us. Your grace. It never runs out. So help us Lord. We pray. Not to.

Not to stop coming to you. But to come to you. Day by day by day. Asking you to give us everything. That we need. We thank you. That it's your grace. That takes our sin away.

That saves us. We thank you. That it's your grace. That gives us. The strength that we need. For all the things. That are happening in our lives. We thank you.

That when we are scared. You give us peace. We thank you. That when we're feeling weak. As we are weak. You give us your strength. We thank you. That when we're feeling dying. As we come to you.

And as we think about who you are. And what you did for us. Lord Jesus on the cross. You give us joy. We thank you. That when we make a mess of things. And we sin. As we keep coming back to you.

You keep giving us. That forgiveness. So thank you Lord. For your never ending grace. And help us. We pray. To keep on coming to you. As you want us to. Bless the boys and girls.

Watch over them. As they go to Sunday school. Help them to learn. About how good you are. And how much you love them. And help them in their school work. Help them. As they.

As they start to be able to see one or two friends. Help them. In all the. The things of life. Be with them. Every day. In every way. And we pray all this in Jesus name.

Amen. We're going to read now God's word. And we're going to read from Romans. Romans chapter 5. Romans chapter 5.

And we'll read the whole. Of this chapter. This is. This is God's word. Therefore. Since we have been justified. Through faith.

[18:49] We have peace with God. Through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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. Not only so. But we also rejoice. In our sufferings. Because we know that suffering. Produces perseverance. Perseverance.

Character. And character. Hope. 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.

You see. At just the right time. When we were still powerless. Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely. Will anyone die. For a righteous man. Though for a good man. Someone might possibly.

Dare to die. But God demonstrates. His own love for us. In this. While we were still sinners. Christ died for us. Since we.

[19:46] Now have been justified. By his blood. How much more. Shall we be saved. From God's wrath. Through him. 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. Not only is this so.

But we also rejoice. In God. Through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through whom we have. Now. Received reconciliation. Therefore. Just as sin entered the world.

Through one man. And death through sin. And in this way. Death came to all men. Because all sinned. For before the law was given. Sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account.

Where there is no law. Nevertheless. Death reigned. From the time of Adam. To the time of Moses. Even. Over those. Who did not sin. By breaking command. As Adam did.

[20:41] It was a pattern. Of the one to come. But the gift. Is not like the trespass. For if. The many died. By the trespass. Of the one man. How much more.

Will those.

Those who receive. God's abundant. Provision of grace. And of the gift. Of righteousness. Reign and life. Through the one man. Jesus Christ. Consequently.

Just as the result. Of one trespass. Was condemnation. For all men. So also the result. Of one act. Of righteousness. Was justification. That brings life.

For all men. For just as. For just as though. The disobedience. Of the one man. For just as through. The disobedience. Of the one man. The many were made. Sinners.

[21:54] So also. Through the obedience. Of the one man. The many. Will be made righteous. The law was added. So that trespass. Might increase. But where sin increased.

Grace. Increased. All the more. So that just as sin. Reigned in death. So also. Grace might reign. Through righteousness. To bring. Eternal life.

Through Jesus Christ. Our. Lord. Amen. And may God bless. That reading. Of his word. To us. Well let's. Turn back.

To Romans. Chapter 5. And as we do that. We'll just pray. For a moment again. Lord. We thank you. For. Your love. Which we've read there.

You're poured out. Into our hearts. By the Holy Spirit. Whom. You have given us. And we thank you. For the. The assurance. Of the fact. That the Holy Spirit. Lives within all. Who believe.

[22:49] And we. Pray for the help. Of the Holy Spirit. Our teacher. As we come. To this passage. Give us. Understanding. We pray. And may we know. The touch. Of God.

On our hearts. As we meditate. Upon this truth. And we ask. All this. In Jesus name. Amen. It can be hard.

During this strange time. Not to. To complain. About. Some of the things. That. We've. We've lost. We've lost.

Our freedom. To. To a degree. We can't. Meet. In the church building. As we. As we once did. And as we look. Fondly back on. And. It can be tempting.

Sometimes. To complain. About that. We've lost. Our freedom. To a degree. Because we can't. Move. Freely. Around the world. As we did.

[23:45] We can't. Hop on a plane. Like we used to. We can't. Move freely. Around the country. Like we used to. Either. And even. Within the island. There are restrictions. On. On how. Far we can go.

And who we go with. So. We. We feel that sense. Of. Of what we've lost. Some have lost. Income. I know. There are businesses. That are. Struggling.

Some have lost. Their health. For a period. And. These. Are difficult. Things. These. These losses. Are. Are things. Which we find. Difficult. There are things.

That we. That we need to pray about. And we do pray about. And there are things. These are things. That we. We are to try. To support each other. Through. As best as we can.

So. There are losses. That we speak about. And we feel. At this time. And. Against the backdrop. Of that. In our feelings. And in our current. Circumstances.

[24:41] The. The passage. That we have. In front of us. Today. Romans 5. It's a timely. And it's an encouraging word. Because. Paul. Or God. Through Paul. Wants to speak to us.

Not about what we've lost. But rather what we've gained. What we have received. And that's our first point. For this morning. What we have. Received.

And. Before we actually. Get into this point. And begin to look at the things. That we have received. Let me just be clear. That Paul. As he. As he speaks.

He is speaking. Here. To those who are. Christians. When he. When he. Explains what they have received. Verse 1. Says. Therefore. Since we have been.

Justified. Through. Faith. He's. Addressing. Those. Who. Have been. Justified. Through. Faith. He's. Addressing. Those. Who. Who. Believe. He's.

[25:38] Speaking. To those. Who have been. Justified. Who have been. Made. Just as if. We had never. Sinned. Through. Faith. And Christ. And through. The. The. Finished. Work. Of Christ. And to. To such.

As. As believe. And are. Justified. God. Says. Through. Paul. Let me. Tell you. The. Amazing. News. Of. What. We.

Have. Received. What. You. Have. Received. Through. Faith. In. Christ. Now. There. Are. Many. People. And. I. Expect. There. Be. Some. Who. Are.

Listening. Some. Who. Are. Watching. Who. Are. Not. Yet. In. Christ. Christ. And. Who. Even. As. We. Get. Into. This.

Service. Today. Are. Thinking. About. That. That. That. They. Are. Not. Yet. Christians. And. For. Those. Who. Are. Not. Yet. Christians. Very. Often. The. Thing.

[26:30] That. Holds. Them. Back. Is. A. Fear. Of. What. You. Will. Lose. The. Devil. Loves. To. Shout. To. Us. About. All.

That. We. Have. To. Lose. When. We. Follow. Jesus. And. It's. True. There. Is. A. Cost. And. Jesus. Is. Very. Clear. On. The. Fact. That. There. Is.

A. Cost. That. We. Have. To. Count. There. May. Be. Friends. That. Distance. Us. When. We. Come. To. Christ. There. Will. Be. Idols. That.

Have. To. Be. Smashed. That. We. May. Presently. Hold. Tightly. There. Are. Sinful. Habits. That. Will. Have. To. Be. Broken. There. Are. Losses.

But. The. Gains. What. We. Receive. Far. Outweighs. The. Losses. The. Devil. Will. Always. Try. To.

[27:22] Blind. Us. To. That. But. But. God. Through. Paul. Wants. Us. To. To. See. Outweighs. What. We. Lose.

And. Paul. Knew. What. He. Was. Talking. About. Paul. Before. He. Met. Jesus. Was. Known. As. Saul. The. Pharisee. He. Was. On. A. He. Was. On. A. Great.

Career. Path. He. Was. A. Pharisee. Which. Was. Probably. The. Top. Job. To. Have. In. That. Time. And. In. That. Place. He. Had. Money. He. Had. The.

Respect. Of. Of. The. Masses. He. Had. An. Academic. Gravitas. To. Him. He. Had. Popularity. He. Had. All. And. He. Was. On. Track. To. Receive.

So. Much. More. But. When. He. Met. Jesus. And. When. He. Turned. In. Faith. To. Jesus. And. Turned. Away. From. His. Pharisic.

[28:15] Track. Everything. He. Had. In. Terms. Of. The. Things. Of. This. World. He. Lost. It. In. A. Moment. The. Money. The. Respect. The. Popularity. The.

Prospects. His. Reputation. It. Was. All. Gone. There. Would. Have. Been. Friends. That. Paul. Was. So. Close. With. That. Had. Nothing. To.

Do. With. Them. Anymore. There. Would. Have. Faith. In. Christ. Now.

Did. Paul. Spend. The. Rest. Of. His. Days. Complaining. Bitterly. About. All. The. Things. That. He. Lost. Well. No. He. Didn't. This.

Is. This. Is. Actually. What. He. Said. You. Can. Almost. Hear. The. Words. Of. Philippians. Three. Verses. Seven. To. Nine. As. A. Response.

[29:08] To. The. Person. Who. As. The. Question. Paul. All. The. Things. That. You. Lost. All. That. You. Threw. Away. All. That. Is. Now. Away. From. You. How. Do. You.

Feel. How. Do. You. Feel. About. All. These. Losses. You. Had. To. Encour. And. Paul. In. Philippians. Three. He. Says. Whatever. Was. To. My. Prophet.

All. The. Things. Of. This. World. Reputation. Fame. Money. Etc. He. Says. I. Now. Consider. Loss. For. The. Sake. Of. Christ. What. Is. More. I. Consider. Everything. A. Loss.

Compared. To. The. Surpassing. Greatness. Of. Knowing. Christ. Jesus. My. Lord. For. Whose. Sake. I. Have. Lost. All. Things. I. Consider. Them. Rubbish. He.

Says. That. I. May. Us.

[30:01] Through. Faith. In. Christ. The. Righteousness. That. Comes. From. God. And. Is. By. Faith. So.

Paul. He's. Not. Looking. Back. At. The. Things. That. He. Lost. He. Is. Absolutely. Fixated. And. Consumed. With.

What. He. Has. Gained. As. He. Came. To. Trust. Jesus. So. What. Did. Paul. Gain. What. Do. We. Gain. As.

Those. Who. Are. Christians. If. We. Have. Trusted. Christ. Well. There's. Three. Things. Here. The. First. Thing. That. We. Gain. Is. Peace. With. God. First.

One. Says. We. Have. Peace. With. God. Through. Our. Lord. Jesus. Christ. And. Note. Just. The. The. Precision. Of. That. We. Have. Peace. With.

[30:53] God. God. We. We. We. We. We. We. We. We. Know. That. God. Is. A. God. Who. Gives. To. Us. Peace.

And. We. Feel. That. Peace. In. Our. Hearts. And. That. A. Real. Blessing. But. Paul. Is. Not. Speaking. About. That. Just. Now. He. He. Speaking. About. Peace. With. God.

Paul. Is. Not. Speaking. We. Are. God's. Enemies.

And. Paul. Has. Made. That. Clear. In. The. Proceeding. Chapters. By. Nature. We. Do. Not. Have. Peace. With. God. We. Are. At. War. With. God. And. And. More. Seriously. Than. That. God.

Is. At. War. With. Us. But. Because. Of. All. That. Jesus. Has. Done. For. Us. On. The. Cross. God.

[31:58] And. The. Exposition. Of. That. Really. Follows. In. Verses. Six. To. Nine. As. Paul. Underlines. All. That. Jesus. Has. Done. For. Us.

He. Says. In. Verse. Six. You see. At. Just. The. Right. Time. When. We. Were. Still. Powerless. Christ. Died. For. The. Ungodly. Very. Rarely. Will. Anyone. Die. For. A. Righteous.

Man. Though. For. A. Good. Man. Someone. Might. Possibly. Dare. To. Die. But. God. Demonstrates. His. Own. Love. For. Us. In. This. While. We. Were. Still. Sinners. While.

We. Were. God's. Enemies. As. He. Will. Say. Explicitly. In. Verse. Ten. While. We. Were. Still. Sinners. While. We. Were. Still. God's. Enemies. Christ. From.

God's. Wrath. Through. Him. Paul. Is. Saying. Through. These. Verses. We. Have. Peace. With.

[33:00] God. For. Those. Who. Who. Remember. The. The. War. Years. I. Know. There. Are. Some. In. The. Congregation. Who.

Remember. The. War. Years. There. Were. Some. Who. Who. Fought. As. Part. Of. These. War. Years. Donald. From. Scott. Road. Up. Behind. Me. For. Those. Who. Can. Think. Back.

To. These. Days. And. These. Experiences. It. Must. Have. Been. An. Amazing. Thing. For. Them. On. The. Day. That.

Peace. Was. Declared. Must. Have. Been. An. Amazing. Feeling. And. Knowledge. To. Have. That. Peace. Was. Now. Declared. You know.

One. Day. You. Can. Be. Walking. Along. Living. In. Fear. Of. Air. Raids. Listening. Out. For. These. Sirens.

[33:53] That. Give. The. Warning. That. An. Attack. Is. Impending. And. The. Next. Day. The. Same. Place. Once. Peace. Has. Been. Declared. One.

Could. Walk. About. With. No. Fear. Because. There. Was. That. Knowledge. That. We. Had. Stepped. From. War. To. Peace. And.

For. Scripture. If. Our. Faith. Is. In. Jesus. The. God. Who. Was. Against. Us. And. Rightly. So.

Because. Of. Our. Sin. Is. Now. For. Us. Because. Of. Our. Savior. The. God. Whose. Whose. Wrath. Threatened.

To. Fall. On. Us. Like. Like. Bombs. Now. Showers. Us. With. His. Love. And. His. Grace.

[34:47] Is. The. First. Thing. That. We. Have. Received. If. We. Are. In. Christ. We. Have. Peace. With. God. The. Second. Thing. That.

We. Receive. As. Those. Who. Have. Faith. In. Christ. Is. We. Receive. Access. To. The. Grace. Of. God. Paul. Goes. On.

From. Verse. One. To. To. Verse. Two. We. Have. Peace. With. God. Through. Our. Lord. Jesus. Christ. Through. Whom. We. Have. Gained. Access. By. Faith. Into.

This. Grace. In. Which. We. Now. Stand. My. Friend. Who. I've.

Known. Over. The. Years. And. He. He. Grew. Up. With. His. Mother. And. My. Memory. As. A. Child. When. He. Was. In. Church. Was.

[35:39] He. Never. Had. His. Dad. With. Him. And. He. Never. Knew. His. Dad. And. That. Was. The. Way. Life. Was. From. Belden. Into. Teenage. Years. Into. Twenties.

And. And. Thirties. And. One. Day. Just. A. Few. Years. Back. Maybe. Three. Or. Four. Years. Back. He. Out. Of. The. Blue. He. Got. A. Phone. Call. From.

A. Lawyer. Overseas. And. The. Lawyer. Wanted. Him. To. Confirm. His. Name. And. His. Try. To. Get. A. Grip. On. His. Identity.

And. After. He. Established. That. This. Guy. Was. Who. He. He. Said. He. Was. The. Lawyer. Said. The. Reason. I. I. Contacting. You. Is. Because. Your.

Father. Who. I. Understand. You. Were. Estranged. From. He. Died. Some. Time. Back. And. He. Left. A. Substantial. Sum. Of. Money. To. You. As.

[36:32] His. Son. So. My. Friend. When. He. He. This. Got. This. Phone. Call. He. Was. Understandably. Jurious. But. He. Was. Instructed. And.

He. He. Complied. With. The. Instructions. Of. The. Lawyer. He. Was. Asked. To. Open. A. Bank. Account. And. The. Bank. Account. Had. Nothing. In. It. And. He. Passed.

The. Details. Of. The. Bank. Account. To. The. Lawyer. And. He. Left. It. Be. And. A. Week. Or. Two. Later. He. Got. A. Phone. Call. From.

His. Bank. Manager. And. The. Lawyer. Almost. Simultaneously. And. He. Was. Told. The. Funds. Which. You. Were. Told.

About. Have. Now. Have. Now. Been. Deposited. In. Your. Account. And. There. Was. A. Figure. A. Six. Six. Figure. Sum. That.

[37:24] Had. Been. Deposited. In. This. Account. And. The. Bank. Manager. Said. It's. There. It's. True. And. It's. Now. Available. For. You. To. Access. Now.

Paul. Is. Reminding. Us. Here. That. God's. Grace. His. His. Riches. We. Have. Gained. Access. To. Them. By.

Faith. In. Christ. We. Have. When. We've. Trusted. In. Jesus. We. Have. We. Have. Been. Brought. Into. The. Family. Of. God. And. Through.

Jesus. We. Have. Good. Standing. With. God. And. He. Has. Given. Us. Access. To. His. Grace. And. We're. Not. Talking. Cash. Here. But.

We're. Talking. Strength. God's. Strength. And. God's. Peace. And. His. His. Courage. And. His. Patience. And. His. Joy. Just. To. Name. A. Few. Of. The. Of. The. Riches.

[38:19] That. Are. Ours. In. Christ. A. Great. Picture. Maybe. To. Illustrate. This. From. Scripture. Is. That. Of. The. Prodigal. Son. He's. In. The. Far. Country. He's.

Estranged. From. His. Father. He's. Turned. Away. And. He. Gets. To. The. Stage. Where. He. Is. In. Abject. Poverty. But. Then. When. He. Returns. To. His. Father. His.

Father. Embraces. Him. His. Father. Will. Not. Hear. Anything. About. Him. Becoming. A. Servant. He. Is. A. Son. And. Even. Though. He. Doesn't. Deserve. It. He. Is. He.

Is. Clothed. In. The. Best. Of. Clothes. He. Is. A. Ring. Is. Put. On. His. Finger. He. Is. Given. A. Feast. Once.

We. Were. Far. Away. In. We. Are. Estranged. From. God. God. Is. Against. Us. His. Wrath. Is. Against. Us. But. When. We. Believe. In. Jesus. He.

[39:21] Takes. Our. Sin. From. Us. And. He. Brings. Us. Into. The. Family. Of. God. And. We. Are. Given. Access. To. The. Grace. Of. God. We. Have.

Access. To. The. Riches. Of. God. Every. Day. And. Paul. Says. This. Here. We. Need. To. Be. Drawing. On. This. It. Would. Be. Nonsensical. For.

The. The. Man. I. Was. Telling. You. About. To. To. Know. That. This. Money. Is. In. His. Account. But. Never. Touch. It. Especially. When. He. Was. In. Particular. Need. At. That. Point. In. This. Time. And.

It. Would. Be. Nonsensical. For. Us. If. We. Are. Christians. Not. To. Come. Day. By. Day. To. To. Draw. From. God. The. Grace. That. He. Is. So.

Willing. To. Give. Us. And. Paul. Says. Here. We. Need. To. Be. Doing. That. Because. As. A. Christian. Sometimes. Things. Get. Tough. Verse. Three. He. Says.

[40:15] We. Also. Rejoice. In. Our. Sufferings. Because. We. Know. That. Suffering. Produces. Perseverance. Perseverance. Character. And. Character. Hope. 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. Paul. Is. Saying. Here. Sometimes. There.

Will. Be. Suffering. Sometimes. It. Will. Be. Difficult. But. We're. To. Rejoice. In. These. Things. On. The. Wall. Behind. Me. You. See. The. Paraphrase. In.

Margarita. Is. Painting. That. Paraphrase. From. First. Thessalonians. Five. Rejoice. Evermore. Now. We. Might. Say. How. Is. That.

Possible. How. Can. In. The. Mist. Of. Our. Sufferings. And.

[41:08] The. Answer. To. That. Question. As. Well. We. Can't. Not. In. And. Of. Our. Our. Our. We. Can't. Rejoice. By. By.

Plunging. Down. And. Looking. For. Some. Some. Natural. Joy. That. We. Might. Find. Within. Our. Own. Being. But. We. Can. Rejoice. When. We. Draw. That.

Comes. From. God. We. Saw. That. In. In. The. Prayer. Meeting. On. Wednesday. Evening. Paul. And. Silas. They. Are. Imprisoning. In.

Philippi. They. Are. Suffering. They. Have. Been. Set. Upon. By. A. Mob. They. Been. Beaten. They. Been. Thrown. Into. Prison. They. Are. Battered. They. Bloodied.

And. What. Do. We. Find. Them. Doing. In. The. Prison. Cell. As. They. Suffer. They. Are. Singing. Praises. To. God. They. Are. Witnessing. To. Those. In. The. Cells.

[42:07] Around. Them. Of. The. Goodness. Of. God. And. The. Grace. Of. Jesus. Christ. And. That's. Because. They. Have.

Access. To. And. They. Day. By. Day. Were. Drawing. On. The. Grace. Of. His. Joy.

He. Gives. Us. His. Perseverance. He. Gives. Us. His. Love. He. He. Forms. His. Character. In. Us. Even. In. The. Midst. Of. Suffering. Often. Especially.

In. The. Midst. Of. Suffering. And. He. Does. That. For. Us. As. We. Keep. On. Coming. In. Faith. To. Him. To. Access. The. Grace.

That. He. We. Have. Received. Peace. With. God. We. Have. Received.

[43:02] Access. To. The. Grace. Of. God. And. The. Final. Thing. Under. This. Point. Is. We. Receive. The. Hope. Of. Glory. Verse. Two. And. We. Rejoice. In. The. Hope.

Of. The. Glory. Of. God. It's. Been. In. The. Paper. Some. Of. You. Will. Have. Read. This. People.

Who. Were. Simply. Thinking. About. This. World. In. Past. Days. And. Months. Are. Now. Thinking. Beyond. This. World. They're. Thinking.

Not. Just. About. The. Here. And. Now. But. The. Here. After. People. Who. Thought. That. Their. Hope. Was. In. Money. And. Material. Things. Are. Now. Looking. For. Something. More. Robust.

More. Spiritual. And. So. We're. Told. That. Two. Of. The. Most. Frequently. Googled. Words. At. Present. Are. Prayer. And. Jesus. People.

[44:01] Are. Looking. For. Hope. People. Are. Thinking. About. What. Lies. Beyond. This. World. Now. What. Does. Lie. Beyond. This. World. Well.

The. Bible. Is. Very. Clear. There. Is. A. Heaven. And. There. Is. A. Hell. And. It. Is. Important. That. We. Give. Serious.

Thought. To. Where. We. Are. Going. Now. The. Bible. Is. Clear. That. For. Those. Who. Who. Spend. This. Life. Ignoring. God. For. Those. Who. Spend.

This. Life. Rejecting. The. Advances. Of. The. God. Who. Comes. To. Us. In. The. Gospel. And. Calls. Us. To. Turn. From. Sin. Turn. From. My. Life. Where. Where.

I. Am. The. Center. Of. It. What do you think. About. Sin. In. The. Middle. Of. Sin. S. I. N. In. The. Middle. Of. Sin. Is. I. And. And. A.

[44:52] Life. That. Is. Is. Is. Lived. In. A. Sinful. Way. Is. A. Life. That. May. Not. In. In. Robbing. Banks. To.

The. Side. And. If. We're. Living. That. Life. And. We're. Hearing. God. Calling. Us. To. Turn. From. That. And. Turn. To. Him. But. We. Refuse. To. Do. That. Then.

The. Bible. Is. Very. Clear. That. Eternity. For. For. Such. Will. Be. Hell. It. Will. Be. A. Life. That. Is. Lived. Apart. From. God. Of.

Never. Ending. Hopelessness. That's. The. Reality. For. Those. Who. Reject. God. That's. What. Lies. Beyond. For. Those. Who.

Reject. God. But. For. Those. Who. Trust. God. For. Those. Whom. Paul. Is. Addressing. Here. For. Those. Who. Have. Put. Their. Faith. In. Jesus. Paul. Says. Here.

[46:00] We. Have. The. We. Have. The. Hope. God. For. The. The.

One. Who. Who. Tastes. Day. By. Day. The. The. Grace. Of. God. That. Hope. Of. Glory. Fires. In. Us. A. Sense. Of. Deep. Joy. Tim.

Keller. The. The. Commentator. Says. This. He. Says. The. More. We. Experience. Our. Peace. And. Access. With. The. Father. The. More. Desirous.

We. Are. To. See. Him. Face. To. Face. And. The. More. Certain. And. Thrilled. We. Become. About. The. Prospect. Of. Glory. And. Heaven. By. Itself. Heaven.

Can. Be. An. Abstract. And. Unappetizing. Idea. Says. Keller. But. If. You. Come. To. Taste. Access. With. God. And. Realize. How. Intoxicating.

[46:54] It. Is. Just. To. Have. A. Couple. That. Desire. Focus.

And. Joyous. Certainty. Of. The. Future. Is. Called. The. Hope. Of. Glory. And. That's. What. We. Have. If.

We. Are. In. Christ. Angus. Alec. Prayed. On. On. Wednesday. Evening. And. One. Of. The. Things. That. He. Said. In. His. Prayer. Is.

That. We. Are. We. Are. We. Have. Homesickness. For. Glory. For. That. Kingdom. If. We. Are. Christians.

That. Is. Our. Feeling. That's. Our. Appetite. If. We. Are. Christians. We. Have. A. Desire. For. But. We. Have. In. This. Passage. An. Assurance.

[47:46] That. We. Have. A. Sure. And. Certain. Hope. Of. Glory. That's. The. Promise. That's. What. We. We. Have. Received. In. Christ. And.

Our. Tendency. Is. To. Say. Can. That. Really. Be. True. Because. It. Seems. Too. Good. To. Be. True. We. Look. At. Ourselves. And. We. We. Ask. The.

Question. Will. God. Really. Save. Me. Will. He. Take. Me. To. Glory. When. I. Keep. Making. A. Mess. Of. Things. When. I. Keep. Falling.

And. I. Keep. Failing. Are. You. Sure. God. Will. Really. Save. Me. It's. Often. How. We. Look. It's. Often. How. We. Feel. When. We. When. We. Look. In.

In. The. Mirror. Of. God's. Word. We. We're. Told. Here. That. We. Are. God's. Friends. That. We. Are. Reconciled. To. Him. Through. Faith. In. Jesus. And. We. Believe. That. But. As.

[48:39] We. Look. In. The. Mirror. Of. God's. Word. And. We. We. See. How. Ugly. We. Are. At. Heart. Level. We. Start. To. Doubt. These. Things. And. For. These. Moments. Of. Dark. Doubt.

God. Through. Paul. Speaks. To. Us. And. He. Gives. Us. A. Few. More. Words. Of. Theological. Comfort. He. Says. In. Verse. Nine. As. He. Develops.

The. Argument. He. Says. Since. We. Have. Now. Been. Justified. By. His. Blood. How. Much. More. Shall. We. Be. Saved. From. God's. Wrath. Through. Him.

Paul. Is. Saying. As. You. Thinking. About. Heaven. And. The. Hope. Of. Glory. Think. About. This. It's. Past. Tense. Says.

Paul. You. You. Have. Been. Justified. Your. Your. Place. In. Heaven. Is. Dependent. Not. On. On. What. You. Are. Doing. It's. About. What. Christ. Has. Already. Done. He.

[49:32] Has. Justified. You. By. His. Blood. And. Because. He. Has. Justified. You. By. His. Blood. He. Will. Certainly. Save.

You. He. Will. Take. You. To. Glory. He. Goes. On. In. Verse. 10. For us. For. If. When. We. Were. God's. Enemies. We. Were. Reconciled. To. Him. Through.

The. Death. Of. A. Son. How. Much. More. Having. Been. Reconciled. Shall. We. Be. Saved. Through. His. Life. Not. Only. Is. This. So. But. We. Also. Rejoice. In. God. Through.

Our. Lord. Jesus. Christ. Through. Him. We. Have. Received. Reconciliation. And. The. Logic. Of. These. Verses. Is. So. Powerful. Paul. Is. Saying. If. When. We. Were. God's. Enemies. He.

Reconciled. Us. He. Saved. Us. Through. Christ's. Death. Now. That. We. Have. Peace. With. God. Now. That. We. Have. Gone. From. Being. His. Enemies. To. His. Friends.

[50:26] To. His. Children. How. Much. More. Will. He. Save. Us. Through. Jesus. Life. So.

Says. Paul. There's. Just. A. Taste. Of. Some. Of. The. Things. That. We. Have. Received. In. Christ. And. These. Things.

That. We. That. We. Have. Received. That. We. Take. Hold. Of. We. Can't. Be. Sure. It's. It's. Certain. It. Can't. Be. Lost. Because. It's. Guaranteed. In.

Christ. And. Who. He. Is. And. What. He's. Done. We. Began. By. Thinking. Today. About. The. Things. That. We. That. We. May. Have. Put. Value. And. That. We. That.

We. Can. Lose. And. To. An. Extent. Have. Lost. But. Peace. With. God. And. Access. To. God's. Grace. And.

[51:18] The. Hope. Of. Glory. Once. We. Receive. These. Things. By. Faith. In. Christ. They. Can't. Be. Lost. And.

That. Should. Encourage. Us. That. Should. Give. Us. Joy. So. What. We. Have. Received. Is. The. First. Thing. That. Paul. Goes.

Into. In. This. Chapter. And. The. Second. Half. Of. The. Chapter. We'll. Move. Through. Swiftly. He. He. Begins. To. Explain. How. We. Have. Received.

It. If. We. Go. Back. To. The. Friend. Of. Mine. Who. I. Told. You. About. Who. Received. A. Fortune. Unexpectedly. Although.

There. Would. Have. Been. A. Sense. Of. Being. Thankful. For. What. He. Received. There. Would. Also. Likely. Have. Been. Questions. About. How. He. Came. To. Receive. It. Questions. About.

[52:12] His. Father. What. Went. Wrong. And. What. Was. In. The. History. What. Brought. All. This. About. And. Paul. Kind. Of. Takes. That. Angle. Next. He. Takes. Us. Back. Into. Our. Spiritual.

Ancestry. And. He. He. Says. In. This. In. This. Second. Half. Of. The. Chapter. Two. Things. He. Says. First. Of. All. We. Have.

Been. Made. Sinners. Through. Adam. And. Then. He. Says. But. We. Have. Been. Made. Righteous. Through. Christ. So. First. Of. All. He. Says. We. Been. Made. Sinners. Through. Adam.

That's. Verses. Twelve. To. Fourteen. Therefore. Just as sin. Entered. The. World. Through. One. Man. And. Death. Through. Sin. And. In. This. Way. Death. Came. To. All.

Men. Because. All. Sin. For. Before. The. Law. Was. Given. Sin. Was. In. The. World. But. Sin. Is. Not. Taken. Into. Account. Whether. There. Is. No. Law. Nevertheless. Death. Reigned. From. The. Time.

[53:14] Argument. But. If. We. Just. Go. To. The. The. The. Core. Of. It. What. Does. Paul. Say. Where. Does. He. Take. Us. On. This. Ancestral. Tour. He.

Actually. Takes. Us. Back. To. The. Garden. Of. Eden. He. Takes. Us. Back. To. Genesis. Which. Shows. Us. The. Importance. Of. Of. Genesis. If. You. Don't. Believe. In. Creation.

If. You. Don't. Think. Adam. Was. A. A. Real. Person. If. You. Somebody. Who. Who. Has. Filed. Adam. Amongst. Those. Who. Are. Mythical. Allegorical.

Characters. Then. None. Of. This. Will. Make. Sense. If. You. Don't. See. A. Historical. Adam. We're. We're. Left. In. The. Dark. About. Who. We. Are. And. Where. We've. Come. From.

But. Paul. Clearly. Believes. In. A. Real. Historical. Adam. And. He. Makes. Clear. That. When. Adam. Fell. When. He. Sin. Sin. Came.

[54:09] Into. The. Into. The. Whole. World. I. Think. About. In. Terms. Of. The. Virus. That. We're. Struggling. With. At. Present. This. COVID-19. Virus. It. Can. Be. Traced.

Back. To. A. Wet. Market. In. Wuhan. China. But. It's. Everywhere. Now. And. The. Virus. Of. Sin. It. Can. Be. Traced. Back.

To. One. Garden. To. One. Man. Adam. But. Now. It. Infects. Everyone. And.

You. Might. Say. Well. That. Doesn't. Seem. Very. Fair. To. Me. Why. Should. I. Suffer. For. What. Adam. Did. And. If. That's. What. You. Are. Thinking. Then. I. Would. Ask. You. Just. To. To. Hold. Your. Fire.

For. A. Moment. And. We'll. Come. Back. To. That. But. What. We're. Learning. Here. Is. That. Through. Adam. We are. All. Made.

[55:02] Sinners. Warren. Wearsby. The. Commentator. Says. We. Are. Identified. With. Adam. As. The. Head. Of. The. Human. Race. And.

His. Sin. Is. Our. Sin. His. Death. Is. Our. Death. In. The. UK. We have. A. We have. A. Prime. Minister.

Many. People. May. Not. Like. Him. But. He. Is. The. Head. Of. The. Government. And. He. May. Go. Overseas. When. Things. Open. Black. Up.

He. Do. Deals. With. Other. Nations. We. May. Not. Like. Some. Of. These. Deals. But. Because. He. Is. The. Head. Of. The. Government. We. Will. Be. Affected.

Whether. We. Like. It. Or. Not. By. What. He. Does. And. Adam. As. Our. Original. Head. The. Head. Of. The. Human. Race. He. Sinned.

[55:57] And. Because. He. Sinned. Paul. Is. Teaching. Us. That. Through. Him. Through. Adam. We. All. Became. Sinners. It's.

The. First. Element. Of. This. And. Then. The. Good. News. Kicks. In. Once. More. We. Are. Made. Righteous. Through. Jesus. And.

That's. From. Verses. Fifteen. Through. To. The. End. But. The. Gift. Is. Not. Like. The. Trespass. And. Once. More. One. You.

Want. An. Encourage. An. Exercise. To. Do. For. Homework. Go. To. The. Book. Of. Romans. Or. Go. To. Any. Of. Paul's. Letters. And. Just. Look. For. That. Word. But. And. It's.

It's. Like. A. Hinge. Whereby. A. Door. Opens. And. Darkness. Is. Chased. And. Light. Shines. In. And. That's. What. Happens. Here.

[56:52] We're. Made. Righteous. Through. Jesus. But. Says. Paul. The. Gift. Is. Not. Like. The. Trespass. For. If. The. Many. Died. By. The. Trespass. Of. The. One. Man. It's. Adam.

How. Much. More. Did. God's. Grace. And. The. Gift. That. Came. By. The. Grace. Of. The. One. Man. Jesus. Christ. Overflow. To. The. Sin.

And. Brought. Condemnation. But. The. Gift. Followed. Many. Trespasses. And. Brought. Justification. And. So. Paul. Goes. On. Here. My. Time. Is. Up. But. You. Can. Follow.

The. Verses. Down. From. 15. To. The. End. Of. The. Chapter. And. What. We. See. As. We. Scan. Through. These. Verses. Is. That.

All. The. Darkness. Of. What. Came. Through. Adam. Is. Chased. Away. By. The. Light. Of. What. Is. Offered. To. Us. In.

[57:52] And. Through. Jesus. The. Trespass. Through. Adam. Brought. Death. But. The. Gift. Of. Grace. Through.

Jesus. Brought. Life. The. Sin. Of. Adam. Brought. Judgment. And. Condemnation. But. The. Gift. Of. Grace.

Through. Jesus. Brought. Justification. And. Righteousness. From. God. The. Disobedience. Of. Adam.

Made. Us. Sinners. But. The. Obedience. Of. Jesus. Makes. All. Who. Trust. In. Him. Absolutely. Holy. Perfectly. Righteous. Sin.

Reigned. In. Adam. But. Grace. Reigns. In. Christ. Sin. And. To. The. Person. Who.

[58:47] Protests. Or. Who. Protested. In. The. Last. Point. It's. Not. Fair. That. I. Inherit. Adam. Sin. Well.

If. That's. Your. Your. Thought. Think. About. This. Is. Is. It. Fair. That. You. Inherit. Christ's. Salvation. Is.

It. Fair. That. He. The. Sinless. One. Died. So. That. You. The. Sinful. One. And. I. The. Sinful. One. Could. Live. Is.

It. Fair. That. He. Who. Was. Guiltless. Suffered. Condemnation. So. That. We. Could. Be. Declared. Righteous. Is.

It. Fair. That. He. Endured. Judgment. In. Your. Place. And. Mine. For. Our. Sin. Is.

[59:43] That. Fair. No. It's. Not. Fair. It's. Not. God. Giving. You. And. I. Justice. It's. God. Giving. You. And. I. Grace. Sin.

Reigned. In. Adam. But. Grace. Reigns. In. Christ. So. The. Question. To. Finish. With. Is.

Are. You. In. Adam. Or. Are. You. In. Christ. I'll. Give. One. In. The. Last. Word. He. Says. When. God.

Looks. On. Us. He. Sees. Two. Men. Every. Human. Being. Is. Either. In. Adam. And. Lost. Or.

In. Christ. And. Saved. There. Is. No. Middle. Grind. We'll.

[60:40] Pray. Lord. God. Give us. Clarity. We pray. To see. Where we stand. And. Give us. Faith. That. We may.

Come. To. Jesus. Know. That. We are. Those. Who. Have. Peace. With. God. You. Have. Access. To. The. Grace. Of.

God. And. Who. Have. The. Sure. And. Certain. Hope. Of. Glory. And. We pray. These. Things. In. Jesus. Name. Amen. We'll.

Conclude. By. Singing. That. Hymn. Before. The. Throne. Of. God. Above. And. Just. Note. These. Verses. As. We. Sing. The. Hymn. Because. The.

Sinless. Savior. Died. My. Sinful. Soul. Is. Counted. Free. For. God. The. Just. Is. Satisfied. To. Look. On. Him.

[61:34] Jesus. And. Pardon. Me. If. We're. Trusting. In. Christ. He. Looks. On. Us. And. Sees. Jesus. Because.

Of. The. Faith. That. We. Have. In. Him. Before the throne of God above, I have a strong, a perfect plea.

A great high priest whose name is love, whoever lives and pleads for me. My name is graven on his hands.

My name is written on his heart. I know that while in heaven he stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart.

No tongue can bid me thence depart. When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within, upward I look and see him there, he made an end to all my sin.

[63:10] Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free. For God the justice satisfied, to look on him and pardon me.

To look on him and pardon me. God the grace of God. God the grace of God. God the grace of God.

God the grace of God. God the grace of God. Behold him there, the risen Lamb. My perfect spotless righteousness.

The great unchangeable I am. The King of glory and of grace. God the grace of God. God the grace of God.

God the grace of God. God the grace of God. My soul is purchased with his blood. My life is hid with Christ on high.

[64:15] With Christ my Savior and my God. With Christ my Savior and my God.

God with himself I cannot die. My soul is purchased with his blood. My life is hid with Christ on high.

With Christ my Savior and my God. With Christ my Savior and my God.

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And the love of God the Father. And the fellowship of God the Holy Spirit. Be with us all. Both now and forevermore. Amen.