

*Beulah Baptist Church*  
*Rev. Jerry D. Black, Pastor*

*Sunday School Lesson*  
*July 25, 2021*  
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**Lesson—Justification Through Faith      Text: Romans 5:1-11**

**I.      Aim for Change/Learning Objectives**

By the end of this lesson, we will...

1. *IDENTIFY* the relationship between faith in Christ and justification in the sight of God,
2. *REPENT* of personal failures to obtain the peace that God gives, and
3. *CELEBRATE* our justification through faith in Christ.

**Key Verse**— *“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1, KJV)*

**II.      People Places and Times**

**Reconciliation.** Reconciliation is at the heart of Pauline theology. The word reconciliation was not used in a religious sense by the other religions of Paul’s time. Reconciliation is roughly the same as justification, but is broader and includes the aspect of forgiveness. The same God who judges also reconciles, so through reconciliation the sinner’s guilt is removed.

**Apostle Paul.** Apostles were literally “the sent-out ones.” God called them, equipped them, and then sent them to establish His Word among His people. Paul, in fact, was an enemy to the early church until God plucked him out from among his Pharisaical brothers. However, Paul showed the same zeal in serving Christ that he had shown in persecuting Him and His people. He was radically changed, completely taken with his Master.

**III.      Background**

Before Jesus came, no one could ever be intimate with God. In presenting his case, Paul has proved that all humanity stands guilty before God. He has clearly shown that no one can ever be saved through deeds such as circumcision or obedience to the law. He has used Abraham as an example of how anyone can achieve right standing with God through faith. If Paul’s readers stopped reading at this point, they would know that they needed salvation and it was available to them.

**IV.      The Lesson At-A-Glance...**

1. *The Blessings of Justification (Romans 5:1-5)*
2. *The Beauty of Justification (vv. 6-8)*
3. *The Reconciliation of God Leads to Our Joy (vv. 9–11)*

### *In Depth with More Light on the Text*

**1. The Blessings of Justification (Romans 5:1-5)** Because we are justified, we have “access by faith” (Romans 5:2). In the Jewish tabernacle was an inner room called the Holy of Holies, which symbolized the presence of God. The High Priest was the only person ever allowed into the Most Holy Place, and he could only enter once a year on the Day of Atonement. When Christ died on Calvary, the curtain separating the Most Holy Place from the rest of the Temple was split, signifying the acceptance by God of all God’s faithful to the throne of grace.

**2. The Beauty of Justification (vv. 6-8)** Now Paul pens one of the most beloved sentences ever written: “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Christ’s death is a clear demonstration of divine love in action. This is what Christ means when He commands us to love our enemies (Matthew 5:44). Humanity was in flat-out rebellion against God. We were servants of the evil one and demonstrated our contempt for God by our lifestyles. Yet God loved us so much that He sent His Son from the glories of heaven to the filth of earth. God clothed holiness in sinful flesh and sent Christ to the Cross on our behalf. No greater expression of love has ever, or will ever, be made.

**3. The Reconciliation of God Leads to Our Joy (vv. 9–11)** In these final verses of our text, Paul continues to expound on the benefits of our justification. We are justified and therefore saved from wrath. We have atonement with God which gives us joy. We have been reconciled to God and therefore saved by the life of Christ. In verse 9, Paul uses the phrase “much more,” and again in verse 10. Then in verse 11 he adds, “And not only so.” He piles one benefit upon another. He is overcome with the positive nature of our standing in Christ. Our justification through Jesus’ blood has moved us from helplessness to being reconciled, no longer under His wrath but now sharing His life, which leads to our joy.

*Liberating Lesson—see Sunday School book for additional comments*

*Application for Activation— see Sunday School book for additional comments*

*Food for Thought and Questions for Consideration?*

#### **Vocabulary-New Words**

- **Reconciliation**—this Reconciliation comes from the Greek family of words that has its roots in *allasso* [[ajllayvssw](#)]. The meaning common to this word group is "change" or "exchange." Reconciliation involves a change in the relationship between God and man or man and man. It assumes there has been a breakdown in the relationship, but now there has been a change from a state of enmity and fragmentation to one of harmony and fellowship.
- **Justification**--forensic term, opposed to condemnation. As regards its nature, it is the judicial act of God, by which he pardons all the sins of those who believe in Christ, and accounts, accepts, and treats them as righteous in the eye of the law
- **Faith**--Religious faith is assent to the truth of divine revelation and of the events and doctrines contained in it.
- **Sin** Any thought, word, desire, action, or omission of action, contrary to the law of God
- **Atonement**--The satisfaction offered to divine justice for the sins of mankind by the death of Jesus Christ;