

God's Beautiful Love

Romans 5:1-11 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

❖ Introduction

➤ It Is Impossible:

- To fully Open these Verses to You Today
 - I think some of you already know that.
 - You see the wealth in these 11 verses... and you wonder... how will He get to all of it
 - Well, I will not...
 - Maybe One Day...
- But, I Will focus on some things I think are of the utmost importance to you

➤ Let's Define a Few Words Before We Start this Morning

- **Justified** – to be put right with
- **Reconciliation** – to be restored to favorable relations with someone wronged
 - Example: If I had a disagreement with Flint... After I got made and tripped him when He walked by.... Then I go to him begging his forgiveness. And He overlooks my offense. And He gives me a big ol hug and says... We are straight man.
 - Our friendship that was hurt by my tripping him... has now been restored
- **Saved** – rescued
 - Like if you are in big trouble, maybe hanging from the edge of a very high building... not sure why you are hanging there.... But you are... And you cannot pull yourself up... But someone comes along and grabs your hand and pulls you to safety. Rescuing you.

➤ Summary Statement

- *"We were once enemies of God, and the wrath of God was being reserved for us. But through faith in Jesus we received God's gift of reconciliation and are now therefore in a right standing with God and living in peace with Him. Because of this, we rejoice in who Jesus is and what He has done."*

- **Brief Summary:** 1) We were in a very dangerous state with God 2) He fixed Everything 3) We should be Happy

➤ **1st thing:** Dangerous state **2nd thing:** God Fixed Everything **3rd Thing:** Therefore We Exult

- So, We will go a little out of order this morning...
- Because Paul says some similar things in different ways...
- So I want to focus on all the ways in which he is talking about One Theme
 - And then look at how He is talking about Another Theme

❖ **1st Thing**

❖ **Greatest Danger for Men: The Wrath of God (This Makes Reconciliation Infinitely Glorious)**

- **shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God**
 - **If you take that section of scripture and just read it without the pervious words**
 - ◆ Or the following words
 - ◆ And we remove the punctuation
 - ◆ We do not know if this is a statement or a question.
 - **Honestly: It is a Statement of fact**
 - ◆ **Shall we be saved is in the future tense...**
 - And it is in the indicative mood...
 - Simply meaning: The author is **saying this is indeed an actual fact.**
 - **Other moods can only state it as potential or possible.**
 - **But this mood is stating this will actually happen**
 - ◆ **But, I want you to make it a question for yourself this morning**
 - I want you to ask the question Shall I be saved from the wrath of God?
 - Ask... Is this statement true of me?
- **The Greatest Danger for Men: The Wrath of God**
 - **As You Notice:** I do not try to scare you into heaven every week
 - Not every verse in the Bible does that.
 - But, when it does... you better take notice
 - **Our Greatest Danger** is the Wrath of God.
 - Like a Gazelle being hunted by a Lion.
 - ◆ His greatest danger is the Lion
 - Or the friendly Seal
 - ◆ His greatest danger is the Killer Whale
 - **Man, the most dominate Species on Earth**
 - Finds its greatest danger is the wrath of Almighty God
- **This Makes Reconciliation Infinitely Glorious**
 - **Which Should Make our Rejoicing Infinitely Greater**
 - I want you to see this morning why these particular verses are so important to you.
 - **Paul says something very important in verse 5**
 - ...God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
 - Why is this so important?
 - ◆ **Because** what Paul has to say about being **saved from the wrath of God**
 - Only applies to those who have been **saved from the wrath of God**
 - And only those who have had, "**God's love poured into their hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to them...**" will be **saved from the wrath of God**
 - ◆ **Therefore: Rejoice** this Morning if you know you have been given the Spirit and God's love has been poured into your heart....
 - ◆ **Or: Tremble** this morning. Be filled with fear and expectation of judgment if you have not had the love of God poured into your hearts...
 - **Tremble** if you do not know the Holy Spirit to dwell in your life
- **The Wrath of God**
 - **If there Were No Wrath of God:**
 - Would there be a need for Jesus Death and our Reconciliation?
 - Do Not Deny the Wrath of God (Understand it... Rejoice in it)
- **Let Me Give Light to the Wrath of God by Uncovering a Few Verses in the Bible For Us**
 - **Rev 20:15¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.**
 - There is a lake of Fire... God has made it.

- Do not trivialize this place...
- Call it a metaphor if you like... But Metaphors do not overstate what they are representing
 - ◆ They understate it.
 - ◆ A Lake of Fire is a terrible and awful place
- **Rev 14:10** ¹⁰ he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name."
- There are very few images that compare to the severity of this.
- Tormented day and night, forever and ever with no rest for those who worshipped the beast
- Which is also applied to all people not written in the book of the Lamb
- All people that die without giving themselves to Jesus

➤ **Why Is There Wrath from God on Man**

- Because of our Sins.
- Our Rebellion against God has brought upon man the wrath of their Creator
- **We Have Seen Examples of It in Man's History:**
 - **The Flood** (there are more than 270 stories concerning a world wide flood in different cultures all over the world)
 - ◆ From Greek cultures to Roman, to Mexico, Egypt and other different African cultures, Russia, China, Korea, Australia, Hawaii, Fiji, Alaska, Native Americans, Central America, From Venezuela to Brazil
 - **God became so angry with the Rebellion of the first men,**
 - ◆ that He sent a flood to destroy every living soul except 8
 - **Sodom and Gomorrah became so wicked in many sins,**
 - ◆ especially sexual sins,
 - ◆ that He burned it to the ground and reduced it to ashes that blew away with the wind
 - ◆ He destroyed every person except for Abraham's Nephew Lot and his two daughters
 - **He then brought His wrath upon Egypt because of their wickedness**
 - ◆ in how they treated His people during their time there
 - ◆ And He brought ten plagues on those people, culminating in the death of their firstborn
 - **His People Israel are given over by God**
 - ◆ To be ruined first by the Assyrians from their North
 - ◆ And to finally be taken into captivity by the Babylonians
 - Cities destroyed, people killed and many captured and taken to a far away land
 - **When God brings His Wrath upon the Earth in the Coming Days**
 - ◆ He has given us a blue print of His judgment
 - ◆ There will be seven initial judgments upon the earth, brought about after the opening of 7 seals from a scroll by the Lamb of God
 - ◆ There will then be Seven Trumpets of Judgment blown signifying the beginning of one terrible judgment after another
 - ◆ After this there are 7 bowls filled with the wrath of God that will be poured out upon the earth...
 - And it will be terrible... It will be worse than anything Egypt experienced
 - ◆ **It is so bad, that after the opening of the 6th of 21 judgments... We read this**
 - **Rev 6:15** ¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among

the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ calling to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷ for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”

◆ **This is our Warning... This is our wake up call... A time to Sober up...**

- And for us to stop drinking in the Passions and Desires of this perishing World

➤ **We Were His Enemies**

- There are three interesting statements in the text this morning
 - **They occur in this order:**
 - While We Were Still Weak, While We Were Still Sinners, While We Were enemies
 - **While we Were**
 - ◆ Our quality of being... (this is how we existed... our status of existence...)
 - Don't tell prideful man this... they will not like it...
 - ◆ This is in the present tense... meaning... that this was present status...
 - **1) While We Were Still Weak...**
 - ◆ Powerless... In a Helpless or sick condition likely referring morally
 - We could not do good... We were powerless to do so
 - **2) While We Were Still Sinners**
 - ◆ Not only were we Powerless...
 - ◆ We were sinners...
 - ◆ Meaning we acted in defiance to God's laws...
 - **3) While We Were Enemies**
 - ◆ Not only were we powerless sinners...
 - ◆ This had made us enemies with God
 - ◆ More so than the U.S. and Germany/Italy/Japan in WW2

➤ **Making matters worse...**

- We had wronged the greatest being in the Universe
- If I were to lie to a stranger... very little could be done
- If I were to lie to my friend... it would harm our relationship
- If I were to lie to my wife... a very important relationship would be harmed and trust would be broken
- If I were to lie to the government... I would be guilty of perjury and put into jail
- When I lie before God, the sin is infinitely worse than perjury because God is
 - Infinitely Holy
- The greater the authority... the greater the consequences

❖ **Very Briefly I want to look at the first 5 verses**

- **We have thought about our problem.**
 - Our rebellion against God
- **Now We Want to look at how God has fixed the problem**
 - Lets look at the new reality for those who have been saved by God
- These verses teach us some very important basic truths about our Faith

❖ **2nd Thing**

❖ **Being Justified By Faith Brings Us Peace**

- **Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

➤ **Why is this so important?**

- At one time we were not right with God

- At one time we were not at peace with God
 - Because of our sins
 - **We Were Like:**
 - **A Criminal before a judge.**
 - ◆ Found guilty of a crime so bad I do not even mention in
 - ◆ And our punishment is to spend most of the rest of our life in prison
 - ◆ And that would end with our being put to death because of our crime
 - ◆ And there is no chance of parole
 - We are not right with society, We are not at peace with our Legal System
 - **By Faith We are Justified**
 - Here we are taught that Faith in Jesus
 - Who He really is and what He has taught us
 - By Believing in Jesus...
 - We are now made Right with God
 - **Having Been Made Right With God... We now Have Peace**
 - There is not battle between us and God
 - There is no more breakdown in our relationship to our Creator
 - We were at war with Him and He with us...
 - But Faith in Jesus, making us Right with God has brought about **Peace** in our Relationship
- ❖ **Access to Grace And Rejoicing in Hope of the Glory of God**
- ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
 - **We Needed Grace from God if we were ever to have any Hope**
 - **We Obtained Access to that Grace by Faith**
 - Faith has led to Grace
 - **It is this Grace that helps us to stand...**
 - To help us continue in our walk with God
 - To continue in our Faith
 - To continue in our Hope and our Peace
 - **Because of this Grace we have obtained by Faith**
 - We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God...
 - Meaning we place Hope in Jesus...
 - Jesus is the glory of God
 - Hebrews 1:3 He is the radiance of the glory of God
 - **We are to Rejoice in the Hope of Jesus**
 - And what He has done, and Said and Will Do
- ❖ **Hope Leads to Hope**
- ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame,
 - **Our Rejoicing is not only in the Hope of the Glory of God**
 - We also rejoice in our Sufferings.
 - Paul is letting us know that sufferings come to the Christian...
 - But God is so great...
 - And our Hope is so amazing..
 - That we also Rejoice in our Sufferings
 - **Our Walk with God is like a Race...** And Paul uses this language elsewhere...

- **Our Sufferings Produces Endurance**
 - Like the runner who goes out and suffers through day one when he runs mile one
 - And the next week he suffers as he runs two miles
 - He then suffers the next week through three miles
 - His suffering is producing endurance to go further...
- **Our Endurance Produces Character**
 - This endurance to run further and further then produces
 - A runner that has been tested
 - A runner who is reliable
 - His Endurance has produced his Character
- **Our Character Produces Hope**
 - This runner who is now reliable...
 - He know He can run the entire race...
 - He has suffered and endured
 - He has endured and his Character is reliable... Proven
 - His Proven Character produces a Hope in the Runner
 - Hope or and expectation that he can run the race... he can finish...
- **Hope Does Not Put Us to Shame**
 - This Hope in Christ and what Christ has done
 - As We have run the race... It does not put us to shame...
 - Because it is there for us... We are hoping in a true reality...

❖ **God's Love Has Been Poured Out on Us**

- **because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.**
- **The Reason our Hope Does not Put us to Shame:**
 - Right in the Middle of These 11 Verses
- **Because God's Love has been poured into our Hearts...**
 - **1st thing? What is God's love?**
 - If we follow the text... We see God has shown His love to us by the death of His Son
 - God's love for us is what Jesus has done for us...
 - **2nd thing? What does it mean that it has been poured out?**
 - What Jesus has done has been poured into our hearts...
 - Poured into our hearts = give in abundance, to flow out...
- **Through the Holy Spirit**
 - The way we have this love poured into us...
 - Is through the working of the Holy Spirit of God
 - And the Holy Spirit:
 - Pours this love into our hearts according to the preaching and teaching and reading of the Word of God
 - That exalts the Work of God
- **Who has been given to us (The Holy Spirit)**
 - **Jesus informs Nicodemus... you must be born of the Spirit**
 - Jesus tells the disciples to wait on the Spirit
 - The Spirit came to all who turned from their sin and put faith in Jesus
 - **He gives His Spirit to His children**
 - He promised us this in Ezekiel
 - He said He would place His Spirit within us

❖ **It's Against Human Reason for Jesus to Die for Rebellious Man**

- ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—

➤ **It Goes Against Human Reason**

➤ **At the Right Time**

❖ **We Have Evidence of God's Love**

- ⁸ but **God shows his love** for us in that while we were still sinners, **Christ died for us.**

➤ **God has given us evidence of His love for us...**

- He does not just say it... He shows it

➤ **God's love is Presently shown**

- Paul writes this for us to comprehend that he means:
- God has shown, or demonstrated, or gives evidence...
- And this is in the present tense... Right now... not past or future... but right now
- He continues even right now showing us His love
- Always right now... He is right now showing us...
- His love by the fact:

➤ **Christ died for us**

- A past event...
- An event that occurred approximately 2000 years ago...

➤ **So... While we were still sinners...**

- God's showing of love for us... is seen in not just in the fact that He died
- But also in the fact that He died for us... While we were sinners...
- He died... and He died for those who did not deserve it

➤ **Christ dying for us... is the proof of God's love...**

- Therefore... understanding the love of God... you must understand and believe in and hope in
 - The death of Christ
- You must think on it and rejoice in it...
 - So you can see the love of God
- **You can see it in this verse...**
 - When our present status was one of being a sinner...
 - God knowing this.... Had his Son die for us...

❖ **Much More (Our Assurance)**

- ⁹ Since, therefore, we **have now been justified** by his blood, much more **shall we be saved** by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies **we were reconciled** to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that **we are reconciled, shall we be saved** by his life.

➤ **Remember the Definition of Reconciliation**

- **Reconciliation-**

➤ **Our Reconciliation... Our Rescue... Is from God... It is not our working**

- **Another English Lesson:**

- Verbs are the action part of the sentence...
- They are how the Subject Gets where he is going...

- **Some verbs are active...** Meaning the Subject is doing the Acting...

- Bob hits the ball.

- **Other verbs our passive...**

- Meaning the subject is being acted upon...

- Bob was hit by the ball
- **How do we know?**
 - Well, you should be able to tell in the English by just reading it
 - In the greek you are able to tell by the ending of the verbs... the verb will have a certain ending
- **These verbs are passive...**
 - There are five of them... Meaning We are being acted upon...
 - 1) have now been justified 2) shall we be saved 3) we were reconciled 4) We are reconciled 5) shall we be saved
- **Who has Done this for us? God the Father has shown us His Love....**
 - He has justified us
 - He will save us
 - He has reconciled us
- **How Has God the Father Done this?**
 - Through His Son...
 - By the Death of His Son
- **What Exactly has He Done for us?**
 - **we have now been justified by his blood,**
 - Clearly... the blood of Jesus...
 - His perfect innocent, sinless blood
 - It has made us right with God... Justified us
 - **much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.**
 - We have been rescued by Jesus from the wrath of God
 - ◆ As we said before... our greatest danger was God's wrath...
 - ◆ Jesus rescued us
 - ¹⁰**For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son,**
 - **Our Relationship with God was broken...**
 - The Death of His Son... Jesus dying on the cross
 - Is the means by which our broken relationship with God was Healed...
 - We have been restored by Jesus Death
 - **much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.**
 - Now that I am restored to God, I am certain to be saved...
 - If God restored me when I was against Him
 - Now that we are friends... He will surely be there for me...
 - I will be saved by the life of Jesus...
- **Much More Now: (Cause for Rejoicing)**
 - **Paul Keeps Saying...** Much more... Since this happened... Much more now...
 - Paul is giving us assurance... And I love it.
 - He is assuring me.
 - If God did these things for me when:
 - ◆ I was powerless... When I was a sinner... When I was His enemy...
 - Then He will assuredly save me by His life
- **Illustration:**
 - God/Jesus has Already done the Hard thing, the easy thing will certainly be done
 - God did Good for his enemies...
 - How much more will He do Good for his friends...
 - **Consider a Man and His Wife**
 - **Hearing of a child coming in from Central America**
 - ◆ His parents have been killed by drug cartels

- ◆ And knowing of this child's needy status
- **And this man and woman rush to where the child is being held**
 - ◆ And they want to rescue this child and give him a home and adopt him
 - ◆ But they have to go through 6 weeks of intense scrutiny
 - ◆ They have to come up with \$50K
 - ◆ They then have to go through a year of being watched by the government
 - ◆ To make sure the home is good enough
- **And after all this... the time has finally come for the adoption to be finalized**
 - ◆ There is only one last thing to be done.
 - ◆ The parents have to sign one more document
 - ◆ After over a year of waiting and bringing the child into their home and thousands of dollars
 - ◆ The time has come
- **But the child says to his almost mother...**
 - ◆ I am not sure if the Father is going to sign that paper.
 - ◆ I'm just not sure
- **The mother would say... I am sure of it...**
 - ◆ Because: If He was willing to come and get you when He did not even know you
 - ◆ And spend thousands of dollars
 - ◆ And allow people He did not know to come and get in his business
 - ◆ I am certain He will sign the paper...
- **And the little boy says... You are right... I am sure He will too...**

❖ 3rd Thing: Therefore: We Exult/Boast

- ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now **received reconciliation.**
- **Application:** Here, at the end of these 11 verses... We have a built in Application
 - A built in response
 - Paul is making it easy on us...
 - He gives us all this great theological information for us to study...
 - Then He says... Now... We Exult
- **We also Exult (Rejoice)**
 - Depending on your version, this word is translated in different ways...
 - Rejoice here in the ESV
 - Exult in NSAB
 - Boast in NIV
 - Joy in KJV
 - Personally... I like the way Exult sounds... But I love the sense we get from the NIV using "boast"
- **Our Response: it is not simply internalized...**
 - It is also not just that we sing some songs in our car about Jesus
 - Or at church... or we think about God...
 - Or we pray and tell him how thankful we are all the time
 - I think the sense of the Word mandates outward expression
 - I am not stretching the meaning of the word here...
 - **Let me give you the sense of the Word as I looked it up:**
 - To display or proclaim publicly a satisfied contentment with one's own achievements or another's achievements...
 - **Simply put... you brag...**

- ◆ Example: Isn't this what ESPN is in business for?
 - There whole show is practically built on boasting in athletes
 - And they are so good at it... They are the best ever in the history of the world
 - They make beautiful highlight reels of Lebron James or whoever...
 - Put really nice music to it like "I'm Coming Home"
 - Then they talk about how great of a player and person he is

➤ **Our Object of Boasting is in God**

- ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now **received reconciliation.**

➤ **Boast in God through the Lord Jesus Christ...**

- So our boasting is in God the Father and God the Son
- We boast through God the Spirit

➤ **What is our boasting about?**

- We do not just boast... "There is a God!" "There is a Jesus!" "Yay!"
- Our boasting is in what He has done for us...
- Namely: **"through whom we have now received reconciliation"**

- **We are to talk up what Jesus has done for us...**

- I was an enemy of God
- And He has great wrath toward me
- But He loved me greatly as well
- So He sent His Son, who shed His blood
- And He made me right with God...
- The Blood of Jesus the Son made me right with God
- And now... he who was once at war with God even though I may not have known it
- My relationship has been restored to a right standing...
 - ◆ That is worth our boasting...
 - ◆ And others need to hear this!

➤ **Why wouldn't we Boast in our God who has restored us?**

- I do not know... maybe we have nothing to boast about...
- If We have nothing to boast about?
- Is it possible that, the love of God has never been poured out in your heart by the Holy Spirit?
 - So, What do we do now?

❖ **Received Reconciliation**

➤ **Reconciliation has been accomplished...**

- Those who have had the Holy Spirit pour the love of God into their hearts have received it...

➤ **God is offering the gift of reconciliation to His enemy...**

- to those who are sinners... to those who are powerless...

➤ **John tells us**

- **John 1:12 to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God**

➤ **God does the Work...**

- We just have to receive it.
- We have to believe in Him
- We have to Trust in Him