

February 25, 2024

Romans: Rooted in Jesus Peace with God

Romans 5:1-5

Questions and Discussion:

- 1. Remember the primary reason Paul wrote Romans, 1:11 and 16:25. What does the word "strengthen" mean? Do you remember the illustration of the Brooklyn Bridge and the caisson's used to sink into the bedrock?
- 2. What is the problem that the Roman church is having? Read Romans 14:1-4, 15:1-7, and 16:17,18.
- 3. How will the gospel, the righteousness of God granted (graced) through faith in Christ to ALL who believe, affect this internal conflict?
- 4. Recall Paul's arguments in Chapter 4. All mankind (Jews and Gentiles) are sinners (chs. 2 and 3) and unable to be right with God. But God poured out his wrath for us and our sin on Jesus so that we can be acquitted and declared righteous (3:21-26). In chapter 4, Paul addresses Abraham's justification, demonstrating that he was justified by faith as well. Consider reading this chapter out loud to remember his arguments.
- 5. Our passage for today, Romans 5:1-5, presents effects of our justification, but it also summarizes the key truths of the gospel. Can you spot them?
- 6. Peace with God is a standing, a legal fact, and the experience of "no condemnation," Romans 8:1. Can your standing with God change? How do we move from our standing to the experience?
- 7. What do you think gives you peace with God functionally? Is God mad at you today? What about yesterday? What could you do or have done to make God happier with you? Have you considered that these are substitutes to Christ?
- 8. Do you believe that you are at peace with God through Jesus Christ? Talk about the four pillars of Hellenism and how prevalent they are in our time, and how the gospel of Christ calls us to walk a different path.