

Week 6 – Embracing Grace (Handout)

Paul continues to expound upon the grace that was announced in 3:21f. This grace carries implications about past, present and future.

Rom 5:1-12 - Peace and Joy

Therefore, since we **have been justified through faith**, [past tense]

- we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom [present tense]
- we have gained **access by faith into this grace** in which we now stand. [ongoing present]
- And we **rejoice** in the **hope of the glory of God**. [future tense]
- 3 Not only so, but we also **rejoice** in our **sufferings**, [present]

(a) because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And **hope** does not disappoint us,

(b) because **God has poured out his love** [past tense] into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

→ The past is linked to the future. hope is assured by God's righteousness being revealed in Christ

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But **God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

9 **Since we have now been justified by his blood** [past], → how much more **shall we be saved from God's wrath** through him! [Future]

10 For if, **when we were God's enemies**, [past] we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son [past], → how much more, having been reconciled, **shall we be saved** through his life! [Future]

- 11 Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we **have now received** [past] reconciliation.

Notes

- The Glory of God (5:2) is nothing less than the glory we fall short of (3:22) and the glory we exchange for a pale substitute when we turn from God (1:22)
- Have been justified = made righteous....the is the setting right of the relationship with God.
- Made righteous = peace with God = reconciled = restored relationship with God, set right.
- Parallels Jer 31:31f
- Sirach 12:1-7 says that we should do good only to the righteous...here Paul says that God did good to the “while we were yet sinners.”
- Between PAST justification / reconciliation and FUTURE salvation is a PROCESS of sanctification moving toward a “hope of glory”

Discussion

- What important aspects of grace do we learn from this section?
- S. Shaffer

Rom 5:13-21 - Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

12 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*—

[*Clarification*] 13 for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did **Adam, who was a *pattern* of the one to come.**

[Pattern → defines the type of argument Paul is about to employ]

[*contrast #1*] 15 But the gift is **not like** the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, ***how much more*** did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

[*contrast #2*] 16 Again, the gift of God is **not like** the result of the one man’s sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. 17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, ***how much more*** will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

[*similarity #1*] 18 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.

[*similarity #2*] 19 For **just as** through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, ***so also*** through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

[*conclusion*] 20 The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, 21 so that, **just as** sin reigned in death, ***so also*** grace might reign through righteousness to bring [to/into] eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Notes:

- Comparison between two historical figures, Adam and Christ as TYPES
- Augustine translated the “because all sinned” as “in whom all sinned” and this supported the idea of original sin.
- The story of Adam in Genesis depicts the consequence of his sin to be his banishment from the garden and access to the tree of life. Through Christ we have gained access to grace which brings life.
- The clarification in v.13 is to distinguish between “sin” and “transgression.” Transgression is breaking a command or law, and “where there is no law there is no transgression (4:15).” So Paul needs to clarify the distinction and emphasize that even though there was no “transgression” before the Law, there was sin...and the consequence of that sin was death.
- In v. 20 where Paul argues that the Law was added to “increase transgression.” This means that the Law clarifies more precisely individual acts of sin. And since the specifics are not spelled out in the law it becomes clear just how many violations “transgressions” there are. Paul will say more about the role of law in chapter 7.

Discussion:

- What important aspects of grace do we learn from this section?