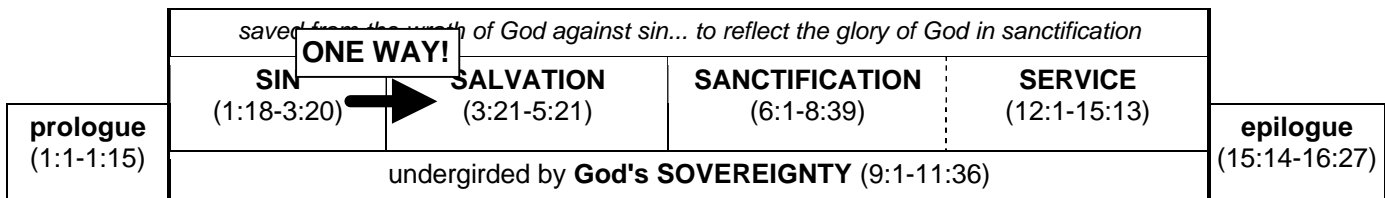


## Romans Part 10 (5:1 – 5:2)

## --RECAP / INTRO:



--in chapters 1-3 Paul began his explanation of the gospel in the book of Romans with the subject of sin and God's wrath

--in chapter 3 he explained that when we place our faith in Christ, "the righteousness of God apart from the law... through faith in Christ" (Romans 3:21-22) is "credited" (Romans 4:6) to our account and Christ pays the penalty for our sins by bearing God's wrath in our place (Romans 3:25).

--in chapter 4, Paul went on to explain how the life of Abraham proves that salvation is based on faith alone apart from our works

--tonight and the next week or two we'll look at the first half of chapter 5 where Paul further reiterates previous points and touches on a couple new concepts that relate to **the security of our salvation**, beginning with the concepts of "peace with God" (5:1) and "access" (5:2) to His presence. Tonight we'll explore how the *basis* of our peace with God and access to His presence proves that our salvation is secure.

## --5:1-5:2: PERMANENT "PEACE WITH GOD" AND PERMANENT "ACCESS" TO HIS PRESENCE...

--5:1-2: "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have **peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ**, through whom also we have **access by faith into this grace in which we stand...**"

--"**peace with God...**" – everyone is born in a state of hostility toward God and separation from Him... (though some people may have a false sense of peace with the god of their imagination)

--Romans 8:7: "the sinful mind is hostile to God..."

--Colossians 1:21-22: "And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death..."

--without our sins being covered by the shed blood of Christ, our sins separate us from God...

--Habakkuk 1:13: "Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong."

--Isaiah 59:2: "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you..."

--"**access...**" – the Greek word *prosagoge* is translated "access" and is only used three times in the New Testament, all three times referring to the concept of access to God.

--Ephesians 2:18: "For through Him we both have **access** by one Spirit to the Father."

--Ephesians 3:12: "...the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and **access** with confidence through faith in Him."

--in the NKJV, in addition to the three New Testament occurrences, "access" only occurs once in the Old Testament in the book of Esther and referred to privileged people having "access to the king's presence." (Esther 1:14)

--before Christ's payment for our sins, there were only temporary and fragile provisions through which sins were covered in order to restore peace with God and access to His presence...

--the entire nation of Israel's peace with God and access to Him was dependent on the daily sacrifices (Numbers 28:3-4) performed under the strict regulations of the ceremonial law (a physical reality that was symbolic of the spiritual reality of Christ's payment for our sins).

--if new payments weren't made every day then Israel's relationship with God was disrupted!

--Hebrews 10:11: "And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins..."

--we can never lose our peace with God and access to His presence because they are based on Christ's one time payment! **When we placed our faith in Christ, He didn't begin a payment plan that can be stopped at any time – rather, He made a ONE TIME FULL PAYMENT! There is nothing more to be paid!**

--Hebrews 10:11-12 "And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. **But this Man [Christ]**, after He had **offered one sacrifice for sins forever**, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. 14 For **by one offering He has perfected forever** those who are being sanctified.

--1 Peter 1:18-19: "you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with **the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

--analogy of old piece of furniture: sometimes we may feel like an old piece of furniture in an antique store that nobody wants... true story: a piece of furniture was bought for \$25 at an antique shop and later sold at an auction for over \$400,000 after it was discovered that it was made by a famous master craftsman in the previous century... value based on maker, purchaser, and the price they are willing to pay. In the case of our life, our Maker is God, our purchaser is God, and the price He was willing to pay was His own blood!

--therefore, when we struggle with sin, we don't have to fear about losing our salvation, but through our permanent access to God we can always cry out for help and He will hear us...

--Romans 8:14-16: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For **you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.'**" *[an endearing term, like 'daddy']* 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God..."

--Hebrews 4:16: "Let us therefore **come boldly to the throne of grace**, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

--not only did Christ make a one time payment for our sins, but He made a one time transfer of His righteousness to our account - "the righteousness of God apart from the law... through faith in Christ" (Romans 3:21-22) "credited" (Romans 4:6) to our account...

--**after being "credited" His righteousness can't be debited!** (nowhere does Scripture state that His righteousness can be removed from our account after being credited)

--"access **by faith** into this grace in which **we stand**..." (5:2)

--"in which we stand"

--the Greek word *histemi* is translated "stand" and in this passage the verb form used carries the idea of standing firm and being immovable...

--not standing on the slippery slope of human performance where you can fall at any time, but standing firm on the rock solid ground of Christ's righteousness and His one time full payment – "this grace..." (5:2)

--the apostle Paul spoke confidently that his standing before God was not based on his own works but on Christ's works – "not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith." (Philippians 3:9)

--"access by faith"

--the moment Jesus died, "the veil of the temple [*in Jerusalem*] was torn in two from top to bottom" (Mark 15:38), signifying that "a new and living way" (Hebrews 10:20) to God's presence had been opened; **and anyone, anywhere, anytime, "by faith", "by the blood of Jesus", can speak to God in thier spirit more intimately and infinitely more securely** than the high priest of Israel could only once a year under strict regulations of the ceremonial law... to the Jews who lived under the ceremonial law this was mind-boggling!

--not only was the veil torn, but 40 years later the temple was completely destroyed by the Roman army and has never been rebuilt since, a historical reality that points to the end of temporary payments for sin under the ceremonial law

--Hebrews 10:19-22: "Therefore, brethren, **having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way** which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith..."

--Jesus spoke of this revolutionary change to the Samaritan woman at the well... "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain [*Mt Gerizim where Samaritan Jews claimed the temple should be, opposed to Jerusalem*], nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father [*neither through the temple in Jerusalem*]. 22 You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the **true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth [by faith through the Holy Spirit]**; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:21-24)

--again, the destruction of the temple points to the fact that God is seeking people to worship Him "neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem... but [*anywhere*] in spirit and truth..."