

# The Security of Justification

## Part 3

Romans 5:1-5

*Justification by faith is proved sufficient by the eternal gifts that it secures.*

LTS: Rom. 8:18-25

I suspect we have all heard delightful stories from the past about people who perhaps bought an old house or barn to transform into a simple “fixer-upper” only to discover during the remodel that concealed within a wall was a priceless treasure worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

This week as I was studying for this message it occurred to me that, in a sense, justification is like that. Imagine with me that your justification is like a small chest that you unexpectedly discovered in the wall of your own house. You take it to a skillful appraiser, and he tells you that this is no ordinary antique chest. It is, in fact, the rarest and most valuable chest in the world, having been previously owned by an ancient king... Instantly, you become wealthy beyond your wildest dreams!

Not only that, but as the appraiser carefully examines the chest, he discovers a false bottom. Carefully, he lifts the thin board from what appeared to be the box’s base and exposes its hidden contents. What comes to light in that moment takes your breath away. There before your very eyes lay several precious jewels fit for a king, and each are as valuable as the priceless chest in which they had been hidden.

This is how I envision what Paul is revealing to us about the doctrine of Justification. As soon as you discover how precious and valuable it is, Paul reveals that there’s actually more here than what you may have imagined. For, inside this priceless chest of saving justification there lay several Jewells of divine grace. We have already examined two of them. The first jewel Paul identifies as “Peace with God.” The name of the second is “Access to God.”

Today, I want to examine with you another treasured jewel of your justification which is given to every believer as a gift of divine grace. But before we consider it, let’s take a moment to refresh on the text before us.

Read Rom. 5:1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access [or Introduction] by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we

rejoice in hope of the glory of God.<sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,<sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,<sup>5</sup> 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.

He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

The third Jewel of Justification, which I have previously referred to as anchors of our security, is called...

### III. Hope in the Glory of God.

v.2 reads, "And we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Now, I realize that this is going to sound peculiar, but the first point of this message is...

## I. Christians Should Frequently Boast.

1. Let me explain. The word Rejoice in the N.T. is often translated "boast." In the OT, "boasting" is often used to describe the basic attitude of the ungodly, who depend on their own resources rather than on God<sup>1</sup> In the N.T., however, the word is used primarily by Paul and sometimes he uses it in a positive sense. For example:

- 2 Cor. 10:17 "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."
- Gal. 6:14, "But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

2. Lloyd-Jones suggests that this kind of boastful rejoicing is commonly displayed when someone wins a competition and belts out a victory shout or whoop as an expression of victorious joy! It is an exclamation of self-congratulation!<sup>2</sup> This is something like what Paul has

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<sup>1</sup> James D. Price, "[Boast](#)," *Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1988), 368.

<sup>2</sup> Martyn Lloyd-Jones, audio sermon on Rom. 5:1-2, entitled *Glory Begun Below*. [www.monergism.com](http://www.monergism.com)

in mind when he uses the word “Rejoice” or “Boast.”, except that this expression of boastful joy is NOT directed toward oneself but to the majesty of God and the excellencies of Christ.

3. The word translated “Rejoice” “is actually used three times in this passage.

- Here in v. 2, it is boasting in the hope of the glory of God.
- In verse 3 it’s “boasting/rejoicing in our suffering.”
- And in v. 11 it is “boasting/rejoicing in God...”

4. As you carefully read the Psalms you will, from time to time, hear, (as it were), faithful men boasting in the Lord.

- Psa. 16:11  
You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
- Psa. 34:2-3  
My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. <sup>3</sup> Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!
- Psa. 44:8  
In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name. forever.

5. Throughout the Bible we discover godly men and women who boast in the Lord for many things.

- The birth of a baby.
- Deliverance from enemies.
- Answered prayer
- The completion of the Temple
- When a miracle is performed.

6. When we were lost sinners, we had nothing to boast about; God was NOT our delight, refuge, strength or deliverer. He was our enemy. All our boasting was self-centered, empty, and hollow. But Now, we rejoice in the one thing that is infinitely more worthy of our joyful boasting; namely, the Lord Jesus.

7. As I said, there are many reasons for boasting in the Lord, and we should do so often! I mean,

- when God answers your prayers.
- When an unexpected gift comes your way that perfectly meets a need.
- When in His kindness God disciplines you, grants repentance, and bestows his Fatherly forgiveness.

- When the word of God speaks to your soul with power.
- There are 10,000 reasons to boast in the Lord. But the Apostle Paul has in mind one particular reason for rejoicing in the Lord. And it's all about the Glory of God!

8. What is the Glory of God? Well, Sometimes in Scripture the glory of God refers to the blazing effulgence of God's majesty. In the O.T. His physical appearance shown like fire or blinding light. That's one kind of biblical glory. On the other hand, the Bible sometimes calls upon people to give God glory. Now, of course, no one has the power to add glory to God's essential being. Rather, this glory is the kind of glory that we ascribe to the Lord. We declare that he is glorious. We use specific terms to define certain aspects of His glory. For example, The Psalmist declared Psa. 96:7-8

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! <sup>8</sup>  
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!  
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness!

9. Beloved, this "ascribing glory to God is an act of joyful / boastful worship. IN fact, in the GK, the word for "Glory" is Doxa, the word from which we derive the English term "Doxology." So, I think it's appropriate to say that Christians should Frequently Boast. We should boast and rejoice in the Lord.

But what Paul has in mind in Rom 5:2 is a different kind of glory in which we are to rejoice. And this brings us to the next point:

## II. Christians Should Meditate on Glory

1. In this passage Paul is NOT thinking about God's essential glory, or even his ascribed glory. Rather he means to point to two experiences of future glory. I call them "experiences of glory because when they come, we will NOT be observing them from afar, but will be completely, wonderfully, and personally emersed in them.

2. The first experience of glory is verbalized in the promise that we will see His glory.

3. As we learned last time, before Jesus atoned for our sins on the cross, we were at 5. Throughout the Bible we discover godly men and women who boast in the Lord for many things.

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2. The first experience of glory is verbalized in the promise that we will see His glory.

3. As we learned last time, before Jesus atoned for our sins on the cross, we were at enmity with God and were separated from God. But (Eph, 2:4-5 declares)

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ...

4. And because of that great love with which he loved us, he established a personal relationship with us; a relationship in which he opens himself up to us so that we can enjoy fellowship with Him and grow in our knowledge of Him.

5. It may be helpful to remember Jesus' definition of eternal life in John 17:. Jesus said,

"And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

6. The expectation is that this knowledge would NOT be merely factual or superficial, but personal and experiential. Therefore, Paul prayed (Eph. 3:18-19) that we...

may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

7. Imagine it! Jesus is actually inviting you to experience an ever-deepening, ever-growing personal knowledge of God. That is, a growing and deepening knowledge that continues to grow until we experience "the fullness of God."

8. Now clearly, as long as we are in this world and in this flesh our apprehension of his glory will be clouded. But one day, whether through the door of death or the return of Christ, we will finally see Him up close and personal.

For now we see in a glass dimly, (Paul says) but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am known. (1 Cor. 13:12).

9. Long distance relationship can be real and strong, but they cannot compare to relating to one another face to face. You may believe your relationship with the Lord is wonderful, intimate, and lovely, but one day you see Him face to face and you will begin to realize how much more there is to know!

10. One of the most significant promises in the Bible is that one day we will see Him face to face. In biblical history, this was a very rare privilege.

- The Cry of Moses on Mt. Sinai was, “Show me Your Glory!”
- Stephen had the experiencing of seeing and speaking with Christ moments before he was killed.
- Saul of Tarsus saw Christ’s glory on the Damascus road a short time later.
- Peter, James, and John witnessed the Lord in His blazing glory on the Mt. of Transfiguration.
- All of those experiences were momentary, temporary, and restricted, but the promise that Paul is alluding to here in Rom. 5:2 is a kind of seeing and delighting in the Son of God that will never end... forever!

11. I think this is what Jesus was alluding to in the sermon on the Mt. when he declared (Matt:5:8)“Blessed are the pure in heart for... They shall see God.” Today, we see him through the eyes of faith, but on that day, we will really truly see him. And Jesus wants us to see Him!

12. In John 17:24, Jesus’ high-priestly prayer, on the night he was betrayed, cried out...

Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

13. Will this be a physical seeing of the glory of Christ? I think so, in some sense. But more importantly (as Stephen Yuille suggests)

In that day “we will be like Christ and, therefore, able to commune with God to the fullest capacities of our souls. There will be nothing to obscure, confound, or hinder our enjoyment of him. Our knowledge of God will be full and perfect, constant and complete, resulting in hitherto unknown delight as we rest fully and finally in him.<sup>3</sup>

14. So when Paul says “we rejoice in the Glory of God, I think the first thing he has in mind is that We will See His glory.

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<sup>3</sup> Stephen Yuille, *The Obedience of Faith: Paul’s Epistle to the Romans*, (H&E Publishing, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, 2021), 136

15. Second, Paul wants us to know that we will NOT only see His glory, but that we will share His glory.

16. Before we were justified, we all fell short of the glory of God. We were sinners by birth and by choice. Now that Christ has redeemed us, however, the H.S. has been changing us. In 2 Cor. 3:18 Paul explains that we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

17. The theological term for this is sanctification. As we cooperate with the H.S. He changes us progressively into the likeness of Christ. YES, we have been declared Righteous in Christ. We have been justified in God's sight. Nevertheless, we still wrestle with sin. In a very practical sense, we still fall short of the glory of God in our desires, attitudes and behavior.

18. But one day – the Day we see Jesus face to face - we will be glorified. And in that moment we will be presented to God Holy, Blameless, and without Reproach. We will instantly become perfect even as He is perfect.

Near the end of His life the Apostle John wrote the following, (1 John 3:2)

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

19. Beloved, at this point we should be asking ourselves, Why does Paul want us to know and believe these things? The answer is, Paul wants us to know and believe these precious truths because this is our great hope.

20. I purposely kept this point until the end. We have learned that

- Christians should frequently boast
- Christians should meditate on glory

And finally:

### III. Christians Should Rest in Hope.

1. You see, Paul says (Rom. 5:2) that as Justified believers, the end of our Rejoicing and boasting is the future experience of the glory of God? Why is that so important for us this side of heaven? It's important because the future glory of God is the substance of our present hope.
2. Notice, Paul says, "We boast (or rejoice) in hope. Such a statement should prompt the student of Scripture to ask, "what exactly is hope?"



3. Well, first, when we talk about biblical hope, we pretty much need to completely set aside the typical English meaning of the word. I say that because the English word for “Hope” has two basic components. First, it contains the idea of desire or wish, and second it contains an element of doubt. <sup>4</sup> But that’s not what biblical hope is.

4. Biblical hope certainly contains an element of desire, but it is also characterized by certainty. J.B. Phillips calls biblical hope “Happy Certainty.” It is a certainty that we rejoice over and boast about. It’s the kind of hope that we sing about when we gather on the Lord’s day.

5. In the Scriptures hope is a confident expectation of future grace.

6. Hope is more than a vague wish that something good might occur. It is a sure and confident expectation that the good things God has promised for His people will be delivered. <sup>5</sup>

7. Such hope comes to us through the biblical promise of resurrection; that all who die in union with Christ will be raised to eternal life. A life in which we will get to see God’s glory and share God’s glory. And it is gifted to all who live in the “Palace of grace,” the home of God’s forever family here on earth.

8. If you know the Lord Jesus Christ, you are a part of that family. What could be better? But even as a member of Christ’s family, you may sometimes wonder if your justification is secure enough to carry you all the way home. Paul’s answer is: you have an unshakable hope in the glory of God. Rejoice! Boast in the Lord, because Nothing can separate you from Christ.

36, Just as certainly as we have been, predestined, called and justified, we will also be glorified.

But if you have never surrendered to Christ, entrusting to Jesus your only hope of salvation, none of this is for you. But that could change this very hour. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.

- I. Pace with God
- II. Access to God
- III. Hope in the Glory of God
- IV. Joy in suffering. Deliverance.
- V. Love of God

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<sup>4</sup> Tom Pennington, Audio Message on Rom. 5:1-11, Amazing Benefits of Justification, part 2. Countryside Bible Church.

<sup>5</sup> Martin H. Manser, [\*Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies\*](#) (London: Martin Manser, 2009).

