

The Benefits Of Our Justification In Christ

Romans 5:1-11

Message by Michael J. Barnard

February 1, 2026

Teaching Aim: To illustrate six benefits of our “*justification*” as found in **Romans 5:1-11**. To realize our justification is a gift from God that can be unwrapped layer by layer like a Christmas present wrapped in varying sized boxes, each box revealing a remarkable new gift. To understand we are saved by grace through faith in Christ alone apart from the works of the law.

DIGGING DEEPER INTO GOD’S WORD (*BIBLE STUDY*)

Part I: Paul lists several benefits of our justification by faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1-5)

1. The word “*therefore*” indicates that a conclusion is coming (**vs. 1**). What conclusion did Paul come to in **verse 1**? What was Paul’s topic in **Rom. 4:19-25** that led to this conclusion? To be “*justified*” the guilty sinner must be forgiven and “*declared righteous*” by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. What is the instrumental cause of our justification according to **verse 1**?
2. What is the first benefit of our justification as seen in **verse 1**? According to **Rom. 8:6-7**, is the person who has not received Jesus at peace with God? Why or why not? What do you think is the worst of all possible wars to be in? Why? Can you ever win this war? What does the word “*peace*” mean to you? What is required for a person to be at peace with God? (See **Rom. 5:1**) What Old Testament title of Jesus particularly relates to this passage? (See **Isa. 9:6**)
3. What is the second benefit of our justification in Christ according to **verse 2a**? What did Adam and Eve lose in the Garden of Eden after “*the Fall*”? (See **Gen. 3:22-24**) Who restored our access to God according to **verse 1**? What role does faith play in restoring this access (**vs. 2**)?
4. In **Leviticus 16** we see that the High Priest was allowed to enter the Holy of Holies only once a year on “*The Day of Atonement*.” Did the High Priest just walk in, or did he have to prepare himself before entering the Holy of Holies? (See **Lev. 16:1-6**) Do you take time to prepare yourself before entering into worship of God, especially when coming to church? Why or why not? What benefit do you see in preparing your heart for worship?

5. What did the veil in the temple symbolize? (See **Exod. 26:31-35**) Was there any significance to the veil being torn from top to bottom at the moment of Christ's death? How does this rip in the veil affect your worship of God today? (See **Heb. 4:16**) Is the relationship of the Christian to God today different from that of the Israelite in the Old Testament? If so, in what way?

6. According to **verse 2b**, what is the third benefit of our justification? The word "*rejoice*" in the Greek language means "*to boast*." Notice the play on words here. Why should we "*glory*" (or *boast*) "*in the glory of God*?" What did Paul mean when he encouraged believers "*to glory*" in God? According to **Rom. 3:23**, what do people constantly fall short of apart from faith in Jesus Christ? What "*hope*" (or *sure thing*) did Jesus provide for those in Him?

7. When we watch sports on television, we may "*hope*" that our favorite team wins the game, but it doesn't always turn out that way (**vs. 2b**). How does the world's idea of hope differ from that of the biblical concept of hope? (See **Heb. 6:19-20**)

8. What is the fourth benefit of our justification according to **verse 3**? Why can the Christian "*glory*" even while going through the trials of life (**vv. 3, 4**)? Have you ever been able to glory in a trial that took place in your life? How did that glory affect your life? How did your response to the affliction you faced affect others? What are some lessons learned in trusting Christ during the difficult times of life? Explain how **Rom. 8:28** and **Jam. 1:2** apply to each of us today.

9. What can we learn about the biblical concept of hope from **verse 5**? Who does God give as a guarantee of this "*hope*?" (See **Eph. 1:13-14**) What was God's motive in sending His Holy Spirit to live within us?

Part II: God's love demonstrated through the substitutionary atonement of Jesus Christ on our behalf (Rom. 5:6-9)

1. According to **verse 6**, how involved were we in helping Christ carry out this gracious act of love? What does it mean for a person to be "*without strength*?" (See **Eph. 2:8-9**) Have you ever felt this way? What does the word "providence" mean? (See Dictionary) What can we learn from **verse 6** and **Gal. 4:4** about God's providence when it comes to the timing of the birth of Jesus Christ? How have you seen God's providence at work in your own life?
2. Does **verse 6** teach us that we must become righteous before we can be justified, or are we "*justified by grace through faith*" in Jesus Christ apart from the law? Would our salvation be a gift from God if it came through our works? (See **Eph. 2:8-9**)
3. **Verse 7** is one of the most difficult passages in the Book of Romans to interpret. Calvin believed the "*righteous man*" and the "*good man*" refer to one and the same person. Luther disagreed and said this passage speaks of two different people. Who do you think this passage is talking about and why? Does the world tend to embrace "*godly people*" or reject them? Why? Is the world more acceptable of "*good people*" from the world's perspective, or godly people? Can you think of an example in life where someone gave up their life to save "*a good person*?"
4. Have there been times when you've felt worthless? Have you ever wondered why you were born? What does **verse 8** teach us about our value to God? According to **verse 8**, how did God, in His love, demonstrate that you are infinitely valuable to Him? Did Christ die on the cross for the righteous or for sinners? How would you define the word "*sin*?" (See **Rom. 3:23**) What are some ways that you've missed the mark and need Christ?
5. Do we find "*justification*" being presented in the past, present, or future tense (**vs. 9**)? What is the only way to be justified today? What do the words "*His blood*" refer to? (See **John 19:31-37; 1 Cor. 1:18; Phil. 2:8**) Why is "*Christ's death on the cross*" crucial to your eternal salvation? (See **John 3:16, 36**)

6. What is the fifth benefit of our justification according to **verses 10b**? Who or what are we as we being saved from (**Vv. 9 & 10**)? (See **1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9**)

Part III: Reconciliation to God comes through faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:10-11)

1. What does the word “*reconciliation*” mean? (See Dictionary) Does **verse 10** indicate that we were reconciled to God by our good works or by the redemptive work of Jesus Christ on the cross? (See **Eph. 2:8-10**) In what way is an unbeliever an enemy of God?

2. If we were reconciled by the death of Christ while we were still enemies of God, how should the life of Christ in heaven affect us today as we live on earth as Christians? What makes the High Priestly ministry of Jesus so critical to each and every Christians today? (See **Heb. 7:26-8:6**)

3. What is the sixth benefit of our justification according to **verse 11**? What emotion should spring forth once we realize we have been justified before God in Christ? Why? How should the reconciliatory ministry of Jesus affect every area of our lives? (See **2 Cor. 5:18-21**) Reconciliation with God is of first importance, but reconciliation with others is also important. Is there anyone in your life that you need to be personally reconciled to? What is stopping you? (See **Rom. 12:18; 1 Pet. 3:11-12**)

MINER’S CORNER ~ *Manna to live by!*

- The first benefit of our justification by grace through faith in Jesus Christ is that “*we have peace with God.*”
- The second benefit of our justification is that “*we have access to God.*”
- The third benefit of our justification is that “*we have a hope that cannot be taken away.*”
- The fourth benefit of our justification is that “*we can glory through the difficulties of life*” knowing that God is at work for our good, conforming us to the image of His Son Jesus Christ.
- The fifth benefit of our justification is that “*we are saved from God’s wrath because of sin*” through faith in Christ.
- The sixth benefit of our justification is that “*we are forgiven and reconciled to God.*”

