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| 1Romans 5:1-11 Sermon Outline11/17/24“Hope That Does Not Put to Shame”**INTRO:** Peace = desirable word but also = elusive Man goes to war = peace Man doesn’t go to war = peace People try to find peace in kinds of ways = emptying the mind all distractions, = finding one’s inner true self through yoga = eastern religious practices Peace = money, sex, fame, charity Those might appear to carry peace with it, but it’s like = mist = you grab it thinking you have it, but ends up slipping your grasp EX: Hollywood or richest people = achieved “everything” you could want = saddest people  | 2The reason none of these will give the peace people are looking for is because peace is not found in any of those Peace only found = justified by God’s grace through faith alone = JC alone REVIEW: Paul has spent last 4 chapters stressing the fact that all are sinners and all stand guilty before God, whether you are really really immoral, moral, or even religious = all have fallen short of the glory of God As result = we need Gospel = righteousness of God Specifically last week = we saw that being saved by grace through faith alone has always God’s mode of operation in saving people even in the OT But now Paul talk = what comes about when you are justified? What are the benefits of justification?  |
| 35:1 “*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand*…”Our salvation does not just consist in us being forgiven = not guilty affects and transforms how we live from day to day Even enables us to triumph through difficulties in life Peace implies something right? Implies = we were not at peace = at war Peace = not just absence of arguing or noise = happy/harmony/getting alone/communicatingThat’s why Hebrew word “shalom” = trans. = peace = wholeness = not just an absence of conflict Peace implies restoration  | 4The fact is before we were saved = enemies with God = hostile Colossians 1:21 = enemies of GodIn fact = God actually hated us because of our sin! Psalm 5:5 “*You hate all workers of iniquity*.”Psalm 11:5 “*Yahweh tests the righteous,But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates*.”We have trouble at the thought of God hating people because our hatred is tainted with sin We can’t possible see how someone could hate someone “rightly” and with “purity”But God’s hatred is his opposition to anything that goes contrary to His loving and pure character ILLUST: You’ve heard of people who say “I’m not at war with God, God and I are good!”  |
| 5Well even if not intentionally trying to war against God, the fact is everyone under the power of sin is in hostile relationship with God That is how far our sin separates us from God 2 Thess. 1:7-9 “*Jesus will one day come from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, executing vengeance on those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His might…”*= Doesn’t sound like God is “good” with sinners in their sin People’s conception of God is like a gentle grandpa with a long white beard sitting in the clouds giving a big thumbs from above to humanity No our relationship is like same magnet ends  | 6Yet despite how far infinitely far removed we are from God, God made it so we can access His gracious presence again by faith in His Son And because of that V. 2 “*we boast in hope of the glory of God*!”Hope = not wishful thinking = Waiting/confident expectation/certainty All awaiting to share in God’s glory in heaven But not only in the future, Jesus says we partake in that glory starting from when we believe! John 17 glory that He had, He will give to His followers who believe in Him But that’s great Paul, but about all the sufferings that Christians face in this life? Isn’t the Christian life supposed to be full of joy and happiness? How do we to respond to that?  |
| 7V. 3 “*And not only this, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction brings about perseverance and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope*.”Not only does God make us rejoice in His glory, but rejoice even in our afflictions! Whether lose a job, persecuted, all of that is happening for a reason = to fortify our hope ILLUST: Billy Graham, Great Depression = friend who lost everything = sculpture chiseling Reality is: = we live in a fallen world, Christians subject to same sufferings as unbelievers But the difference is we have hope = again not wishful thinking or probability but certainty that it is only a matter of time Ask yourself this: If affliction did not come in your life, would your perseverance be stretched like it would if affliction did come in your life?  | 8And if you did not persevere, would that have shaped and fortified your character….etc.? “proven character” = dokimazo = merchants weighing coins to see if legitimate = illegal trimming of coins 1 Cor. 9:27 ILLUST: China 19th, 20th c. = 840,000 Christians post 1950 communism = 115 million Christians See unbelievers have nothing to hold onto when afflictions come in their life They are without hope and without God in this world = Eph. 2:12 But believers do a hope that transcends our temporal circumstances and into the eternal  |
| 9So it’s a challenge to all of us = when we face affliction in our life, will we be able to rejoice and boast in our sufferings, not because we enjoy the pain of the moment, but because of what it is producing in us? When we suffer for the gospel there is a temptation for us be shameful of itBut V. 5 “*hope does not put to shame, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us*.”The world sees us as living for a silly fairytale where we believe in this Jewish so called Messiah who thought He was the Savior of the world, but ended up being crushed by the unfortunate wheel of the fate of the Romans The world sees someone allowing suffering and mistreatment as a sign of weakness Unbelieving friends:“Do you think a loving God would allow you to go through all that suffering that you are going through? | 10But you know the reason why we don’t cave into the temptation to feel shame? Because God loves us His love poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit If God did not withhold His one and only Son but crushed Him for our sins, what makes you think God has stopped loving you? And that’s what V. 6 says, “*For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man, though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die*.”ILLUST: If you see someone you know that is a righteous man, someone who does things right, obeys the law, etc. and about to be hit by a bus  |
| 11Hardly you will see anyone sacrifice their own life for his by pushing him out of the way = rare Paul says, perhaps for a good man = benefactor = you have a more personal closer relationship with = family = mother for her child, etc. = rare But this is what God did for us It would be like a Isalmic Jihadist who suddenly comes up to your family, walking on the street, kills your child, and then you see a bus coming and he will be hit and be killed, and you sacrificing your own life after he has just murdered your own son and taking his place, pushing him out of the way That is the extent to which God loved us Nothing attracted us to God, absolutely nothing….all we did was build up God’s wrath in heaven by sinning more and more against him   | 12That’s why when Peter asked the Lord up to how many times should he forgive someone who sins against him 7x? = he thought he was being generous and loving But 70 x 7 = infinity? Our love is so limited and conditional compared to God’s love = Peter and rabbis of day didn’t even think that was a possibility Nobody is that loving to be able to forgive as many times as it takes…That’s the point! = only God is that loving to forgive infinite transgressions against Him V. 8 “*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us*.”While we were “righteous” Christ died for us? No, while we were SINNERS Christ died for us!  |
| 13V. 9 “*much more then, having been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him*.”How so? V. 10 “*For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life*.”= this verse = difficult to interpret life = resurrection If Christ’s death = reconciled you back to God As reconciled children, how much more will you be assured in your salvation that will you saved from the wrath of God by Jesus overcoming sin and death by rising from the dead? You see, anyone who dies and stays dead means wrath of God still abides on them because… | 14They are still dead, which means the penalty of sin has not been paid for, which means they are still in their sins But because Jesus rose from the dead, that means he conquered death = death could no longer hold him = because the price for our sins was paid for by Him Paul concludes V. 11“*And not only this, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation*.”Not only justification save us from our sinsNot only does justification… = peace that surpasses all…Not only does justification rejoice/boast = glory of God Not only do justification assurance that God loves us  |
| 15But justification makes us boast in God Himself through what Jesus has done Once we were enemies with God, boasting in our selves, our accomplishments, and in our way of life, but the miracle of the Gospel turns a sinner’s life 180 degrees around to where now that same person can boast in God Himself and what He has done for wretches like usNow…these benefits of justification are for the believer only and if you’ve felt left out, there is a reason for that…These are not true for you if have not repented of your sins and embraced Jesus as your Savior, Lord, and righteousness But all of this can be true for you if you do recognize that you are one of the ungodly that Christ died for If you recognize how much God loves you by pushing you out of the train of His wrath and absorbing the deadly impact that was due your sins | 16And to realize that He can give a hope that will never put you to shame, because His love would be poured out into your heart through His Spirit, The same Holy Spirit that drove Jesus to the cross, for us and for our salvation…Let’s pray BENEDICTION: Jude 1:24-25 *“Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, might, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.*” |