



Paul's Epistle to the Romans

Romans 4

Righteousness of God in Abraham

Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

II. Romans 4 Gospel reveals that faith has always been the foundational basis of righteousness

A. 4.1-5 Abraham believed (had faith) in God and it was reckoned to him as righteousness as a free gift

B. 4.6-8 David also blessed to believe that God in His mercies does not reckon our sins to our account

C. 4.9-17 Abraham's faith was reckoned as righteousness 430 yrs. before circumcision



Romans Theme: The Gospel reveals the Righteousness of God

II. Romans 4 Paul argues 7 truths from scripture that Faith was the basis of justification before the LAW was given and therefore the gospel speaks of a righteousness by faith and not works

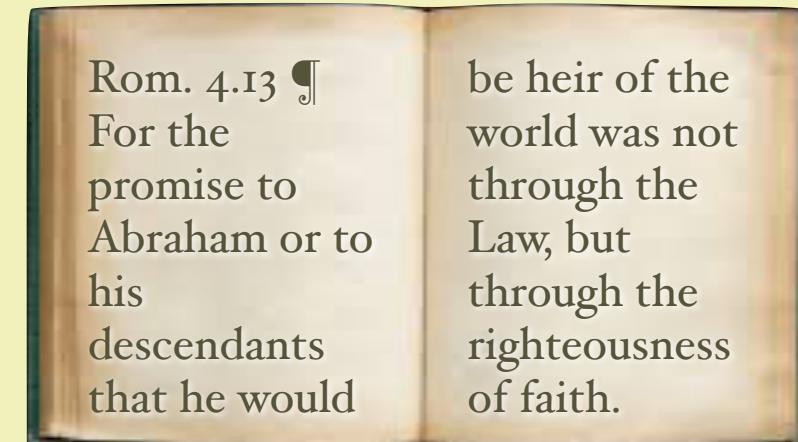
#1 4.1-5 Abraham believed in God and it was reckoned to him as righteousness Gen.15.6

#2 4.6-8 David believed that God had blessed him by not reckoning his sins but forgiving and restoring him

#3 4.9-11 God justified Abraham by faith before his circumcision so that he is able to be the father of all who *without being circumcised* believe (gentiles)

#4 Abraham received his covenant of promise before circumcision to be the father of all who believe whether circumcised or not [lit. in He. = Ab(ba) = father and hamon = multitudes/many nations]

Rom 4 Faith and the Righteousness of God



III. Romans 4 Paul uses Abraham as an example of Faith being '*reckoned as righteousness*'

#5 4.13-17 Final conclusion that God has made Abraham father to all of faith

1. 4.13 God's promise to Abraham's heirs was not through the Law but through the righteousness of faith

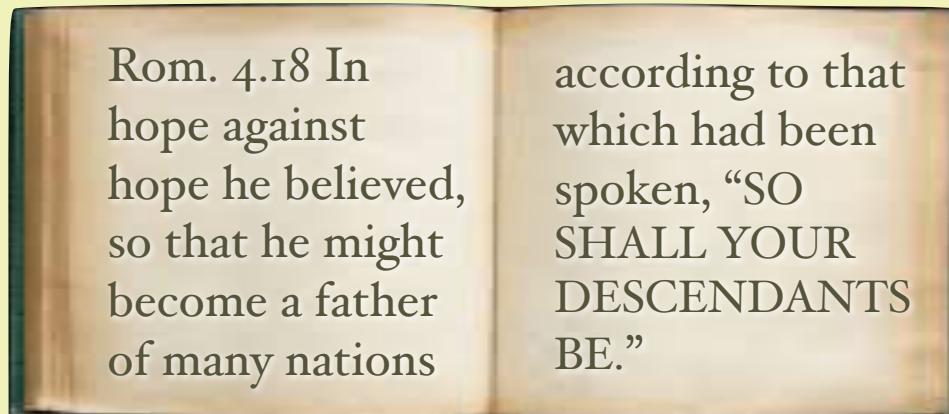
2. 4.14 if only those of the Law are heirs then faith and the promise is void

3. 4.15 Law brings wrath; with no Law there is no transgression

4. 4.16 Abraham's promise extends to all by faith *according to grace* (God's grace mentioned for only 2nd time but will soon become central to gospel)

5. 4.17 Paul seals his argument by quoting Gen.17.5 where God calls Abraham "*the father of many nations*" extending salvation to all

Rom 4 Faith and the Righteousness of God



III. Romans 4 Faith as the foundational basis of righteousness

#6 Rom 4.17-22 Paul illustrates faith by looking at Abraham's life

1. 4.17 His Faith believed/trusted in a great God able to raise the dead and create out of nothing

2. 4.18 His Faith heard a Word of Promise and hoped against hope even when all seemed to stand against it

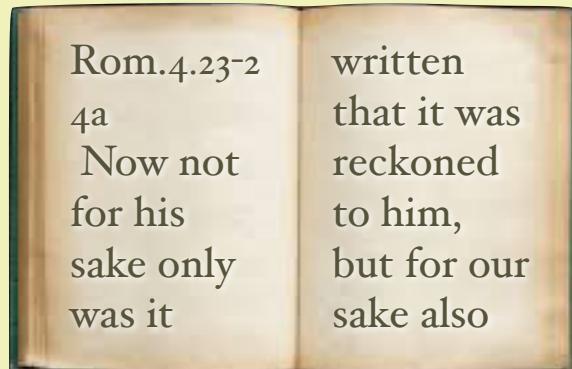
3. 4.19 His Faith was not "weakened" by impossible outward circumstances

4. 4.20 His Faith did not waver in unbelief but rather got stronger by praising and glorifying God

5. 4.21 His Faith remained fully assured because he trusted the God who promised

6. 4.22 God reckoned such faith as righteousness

Rom 4 Faith and the Righteousness of God



III. Romans 4 Faith as the foundational basis of righteousness

#7 Rom 4.23-25 Paul makes his final argument that the promises of God's Word are always larger in purpose than just for Abraham: it was for every believer

1. 4.24 Faith today that believes in God "*who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead*" is also reckoned as righteousness
2. 4.25 God's two-fold reckoning accomplished through Jesus our Lord
 - a. *He who was delivered over because of our transgressions*, Christ was delivered up by His Father as the wages of sin (**negative side**: so sins were **not reckoned** to our account)
 - b. *and was raised because of our justification* **Positive side**: Christ was raised up from the dead to prove to us that sin's wages of death were fully paid and could never be **reckoned** to our account



Paul's Epistle to the Romans

Romans 5.1-11

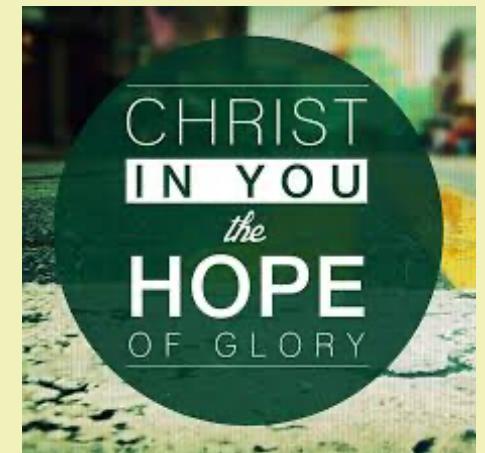
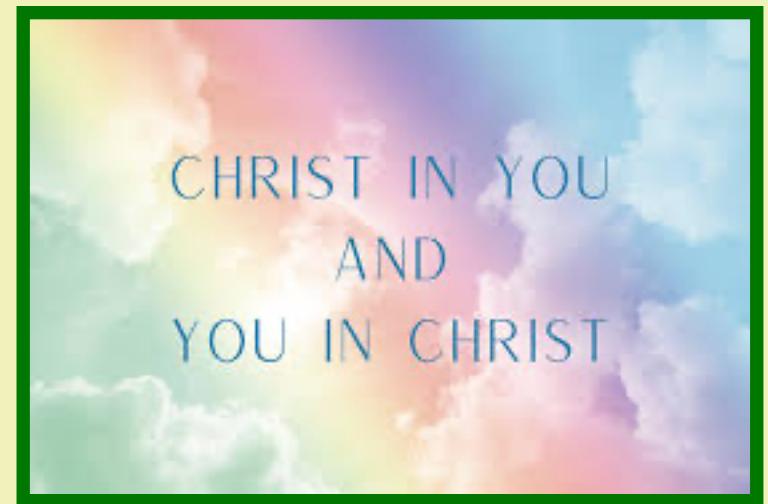
Our present standing in Grace
and the future outlook

Romans 5-8 is the next major section of Romans where our righteousness “in Christ” is revealed from “faith to faith”

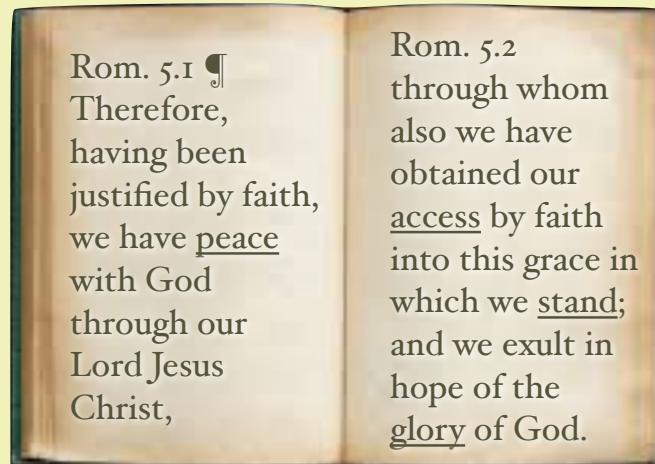
Paul will bring the Romans to understand the revelation of Christ in you and you in Christ

Our transformation in righteousness comes through Christ living in us

- Rom 5 We stand “in Christ” in His righteousness by faith
- Rom 6-7 “Christ in you” begins to live His righteous life through you
- Rom 8 His Spirit “forms Christ in you” as we are transformed



I. Romans 5.1-II Our standing in Grace and the future outlook



Rom 5.1-2 The tremendous initial experience of Justification by faith takes our hearts to a higher place

v.1 peace with God

v.2 access by faith

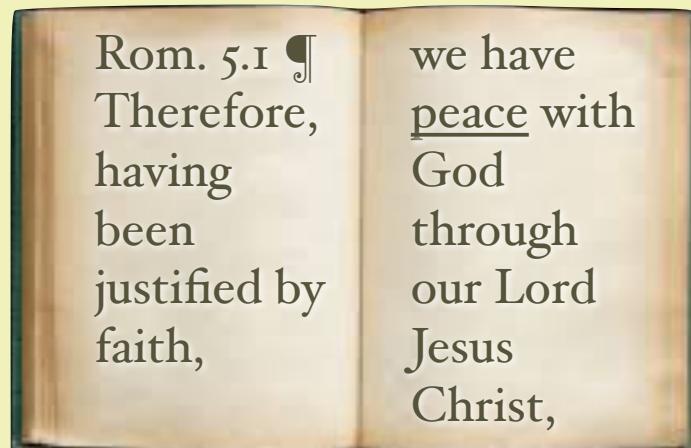
v.2 standing in grace

v.2 'glorying' in hope of glory of God

v.3 'rejoicing in our tribulations

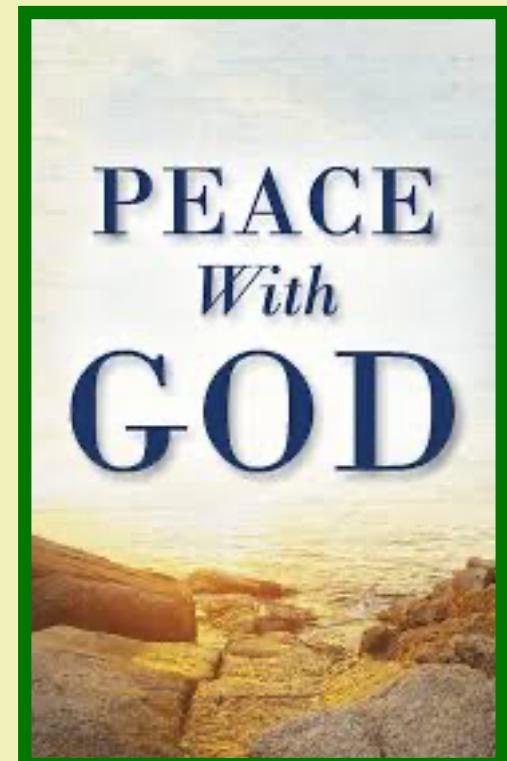
v.5 hearts overflowing with the love of God

I. Romans 5.1-II Our standing in Grace and the future outlook

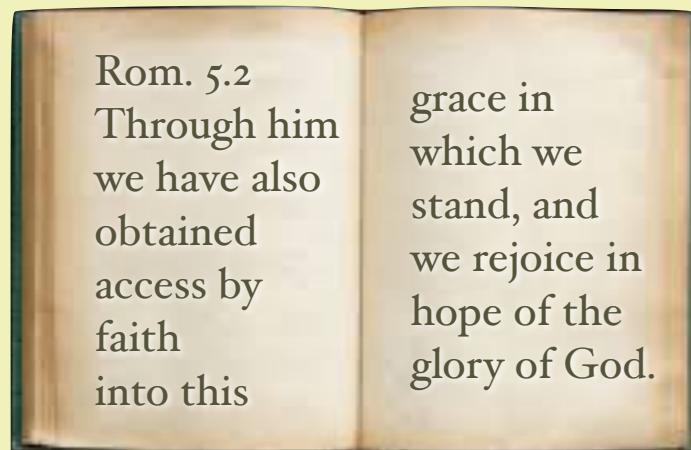


A. Rom 5.1 **Peace** with God

1. to the gentiles this meant the fight with God is over. no more sense of wrath and judgment because we've been justified
2. Paul underscores this experience of peace as he recounts how far God's grace goes
 - a. 5.6 when helpless to right ourselves He died for us
 - b. 5.8 while 'short of the mark' of even a good man He died for us
 - c. 5.9 now saved from deserved wrath by the mercy seat blood
 - d. 5.10 old enemies now are saved by His resurrection life
 - e. 5.11 once afraid but now rejoicing in our reconciliation with God our Father
3. Peace (shalom) in Jewish thought always included a future hope of a time and world of prosperity, health, living in a God-blessed world



I. Romans 5.1-II Our standing in Grace and the future outlook

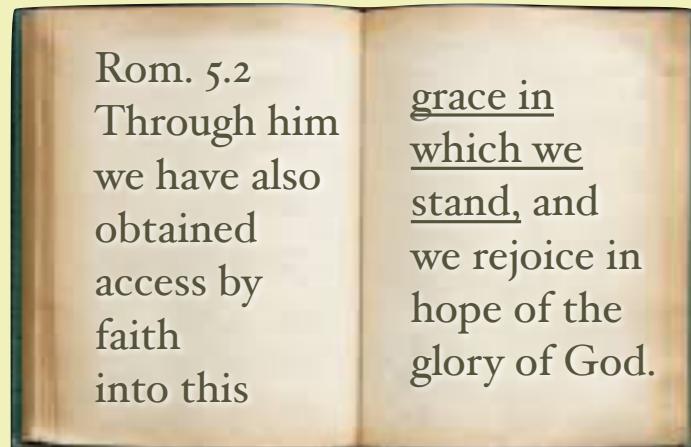


B. Rom 5.2 Access (doorway) by faith to God

1. Man's greatest need in the Bible was always 'how to gain access' to God after the way to the Garden was closed
2. the sacrifice of blood gained Abel's
3. the Tabernacle was the place of access
4. keeping the Law opened the way
5. the sacrifices were the means of approach
6. the priest was the mediator of access
7. for those in Rome access meant being conducted into the presence of Caesar



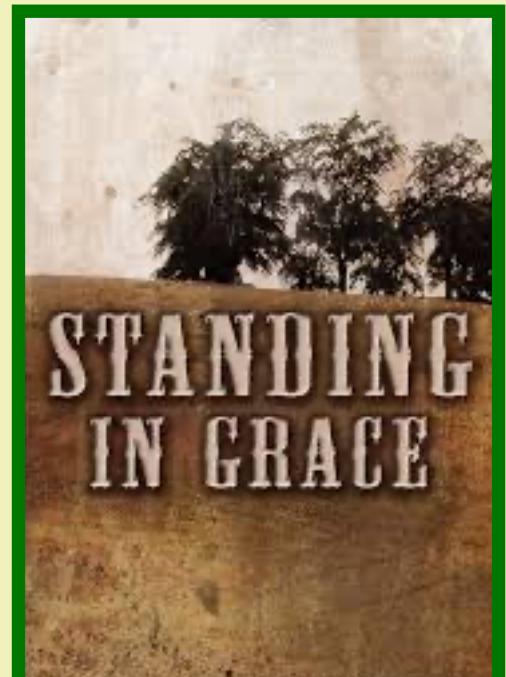
I. Romans 5.1-II Our standing in Grace and the future outlook



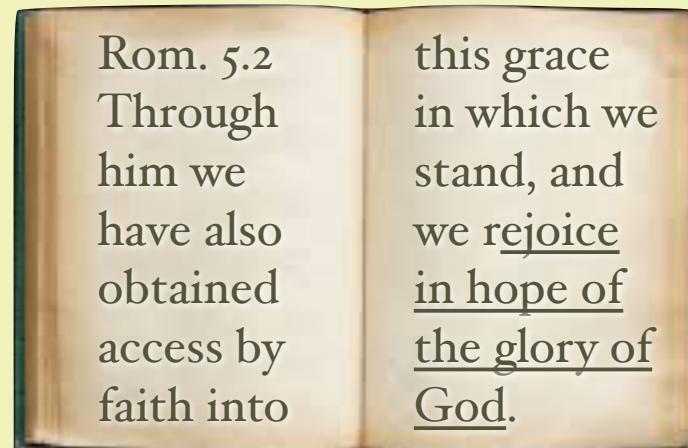
C. Rom 5.2 Standing in Grace

Grace upon grace is our new banqueting table where everything is freely provided while “his banner over me is love”

1. peace, reconciliation, forgiveness
2. blessing, prayer answers, healings
3. a Father, brothers and sisters, family
4. protection, guidance, encouragement
5. inspiration, light, beauty, freedom, joy



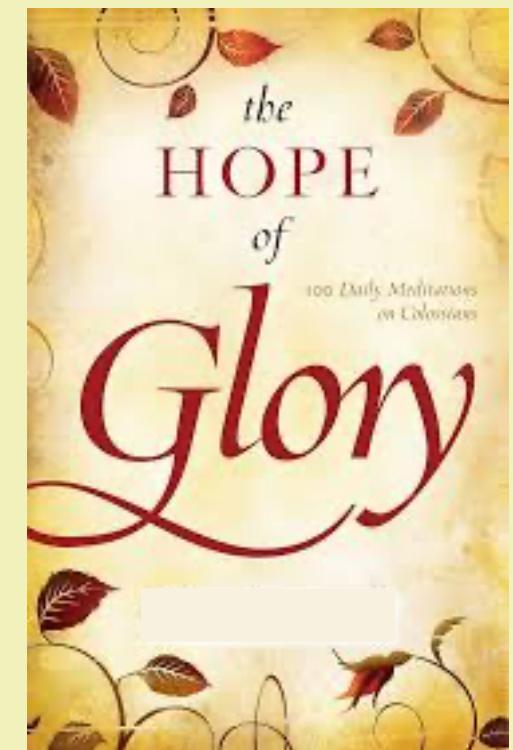
I. Romans 5.1-II Our standing in Grace and the future outlook



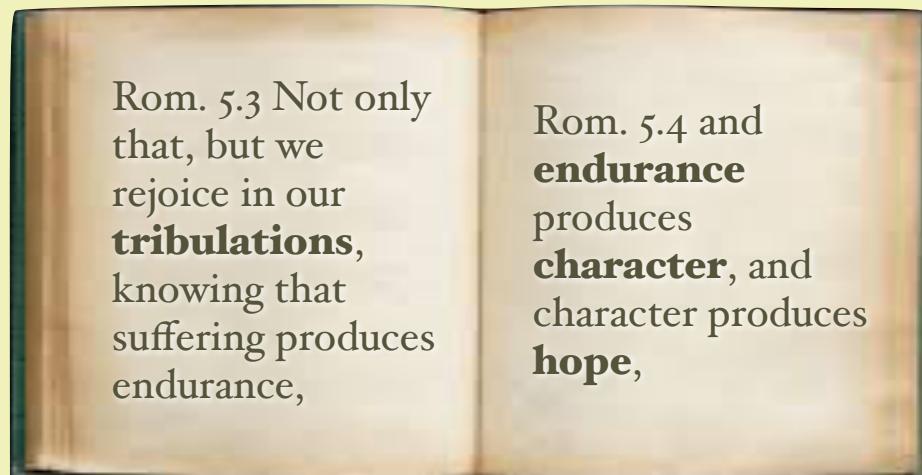
D. Rom v.2 'glorying in hope of glory of God

Standing in the 'grace room', we one day see through the window of 'hope' into GLORY

1. the Lord of Glory is most beautiful - captive
2. "the things of earth grow strangely dim"
3. our heart becomes 'expansive', lighter with eternal thoughts and inheritance
4. there is a future goal, a perfection for us



I. Romans 5.1-11 Our standing in Grace and the future outlook



E. Rom 5.3-5 **Rejoicing** on the way to glory even in **tribulation**

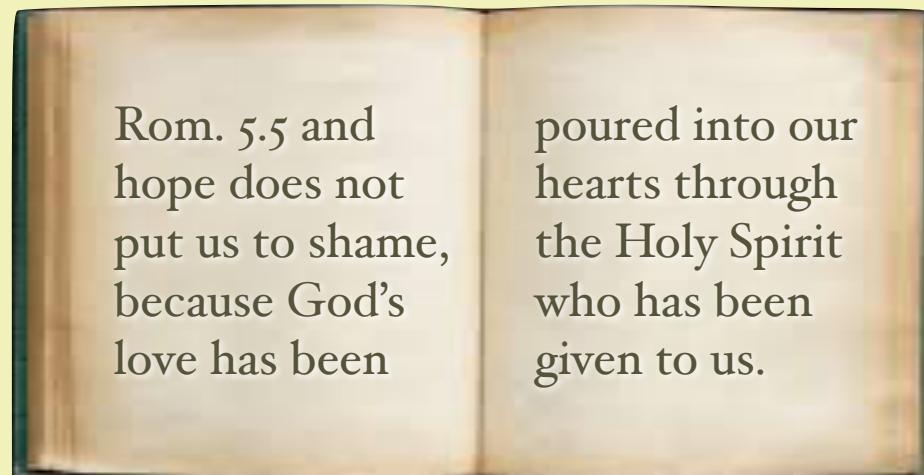
1. 5.3-4 Because we've seen a glimpse of coming glory we rejoice/boast/exult in our tribulation

2. 5.3-4 Now we know that tribulations which are momentary is perfecting us

3. Christlike character develops in the hallway: endurance, character, hope



I. Romans 5:1-11 Our standing in Grace and the future outlook



F. Rom 5:5 **not ashamed** because of present consolations and life within us

1. Hope is a future motivation
 - a. worldly hope can be dimmed by trouble, disappointment and tribulation
 - b. our **blessed hope** is as real as faith and love and increases in times of trouble
2. 5:5 Hope is also kept strong by the present outpouring of the Love of God pouring into our hearts and then “shed abroad” by the Holy Spirit



Rom. 5.1-5 could be illustrated by picturing 3 rooms of our salvation

Grace Room



Glory Room



Hallway of Tribulation



Rom. 5.1-5 could be illustrated by picturing 3 rooms of our salvation

- Our Christian life is really lived in all three rooms at once.
- We always live in the grace room
- We began experiencing glory from the moment we met the Lord
- The hallway of tribulation is our daily sojourn of faith until the Glory
- At any given moment we may “feel” we are only in a “grace” room or a “glory” room or a dark hallway of “tribulation”

