

“Therefore”

Pastor Jeff Alexander + March 19, 2017

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

“Therefore” goes back to the discussion of Abraham in Romans 4.
Was Abraham justified (made right with God) by faith or by works?

- PEACE is the outcome of our justification.
- Where there is peace, things are as they ought to be.
- Peace sums up all that the Lord can give and all that faith can look for.

Romans 5:2

through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

This peace fills the present. It grants us access to God.

This peace also opens up the future. It gives us the hope (eager expectation) of God’s glory.

Romans 5:3-4

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

As we walk through times of suffering in the present, what do we “know”?

Romans 5:5

And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

The Holy Spirit, the great bringer of peace, is God’s gift to us!

2 Corinthians 5:5

Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

Romans 5:6-8

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

How do you know that God loves you and will never abandon you in your sufferings?