

## THE BLESSINGS OF A JUSTIFIED BELIEVER

### Romans 5:1-5

#### I. The Context is Important

(Introduction)

- A. The Cardinal Christian Virtues
  - a. Faith: Faith enables us to receive and maintain our relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
  - b. Hope: Hope focuses our attention on the grand climax of our faith, when all the uncertainties and difficulties of this life give way to the glory of being with the Savior forever.
  - c. Love: Love reminds us of our obligations to live as God's people in our present redeemed but not yet glorified state.
  
- B. The Cardinal Christian Virtues in the Book of Romans
  - a. Romans 1-4: The Subject is Faith (Sin and Salvation)
    - i. The Need of Faith that Justifies, 1:18 – 3:20
    - ii. The Nature of Faith that Justifies, 3:21-4:25
  - b. Romans 5-11: The Subject is Hope (Salvation, Sanctification, Sovereignty)
  - c. Romans 12-16: The Subject is Love (Service)
    - i. Focuses on our responsibility to live a life of love in the midst of a fallen world.
  
- C. Romans 5:1-11 and Romans 8:18-29 (Bookends on Hope)
  - a. The Big Idea (Timeless Truth): God's work for us in Jesus Christ, his love, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit will overcome our present difficulties and bring us safely home to glory in the end. (Assurance)

#### II. The Passage is Insightful

(Romans 5:1-5)

**(What are the blessings we receive being justified by God through faith in Jesus Christ?)**

*Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of God's glory. Romans 5:1-2*

*Not only this, but we also rejoice in sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance, character, and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. – Romans 5:3-5*

- A. Blessing #1: We have Peace with God Now
- B. Blessing #2: We have Access to Grace Now
- C. Blessing #3: We have Hope in Sharing God's Glory in the Future
- D. Blessing #4: We have a Godly Perspective What Suffering Produces

### **III. The Application is Practical**

**(So What?)**

- A. We Can Stop Struggling and Start Snuggling with Our Heavenly Father
- B. We Can Know Now What God Has Promised for Us in the Future
- C. We Can Learn From Our Experiences in Life than Feeling Cheated from Life

#### **Table Talk:**

- What three words best described your life before you became a committed Christian? How would you describe your life now?
- What is the difference between peace with God and receiving the peace of God? Besides, why is peace so significant for us? What effect does “hostility” have in your life? Physical? Spiritually? Emotionally?
- In what ways does Fr. Tony’s counsel to “stop struggling and start snuggling” with you Heavenly Father apply to your life right now?
- If you are guaranteed a FANTASTIC FUTURE, in what way does that change your perspective on the difficulties you are going through right now? Read Revelation 21:1-5, 22-27. What kind of future will that be like? Go ahead and dream. In other words, how would your city be different if God was the mayor?
- If Hope is not “wishful thinking,” then what is Biblical Hope? How does biblical hope work on Monday morning at the office, or the school, or at home?

March 9, 2008. Rev. Dr. Tony Baron, Rector/Senior Pastor. St. Anne’s Anglican Church. All sermons are on CD and can be picked up after the service in the lobby or can be heard on our website, [www.saintanneschurch.net](http://www.saintanneschurch.net).