

PEACE AND REST

The Heart of the Reformation

Romans 5:1-2 (ESV)

◆ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:1-2 (ESV)

◆ Therefore, since we have been **justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE

- God alone is the judge and standard of righteousness
- “But the Lord sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice, and he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness.” Psalm 9:7-8

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE

- God cannot accommodate sin, thus all are guilty, for all are sinners both by nature and by choice
- “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.” Romans 5:12
- “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE

- Justification is the action of declaring or making one righteous in the sight of God
- “But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it — the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:21-23
- “... the righteous shall live by his faith.” Habakkuk 2:4

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE

- Good works stem from justification, not vice versa
- “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

WHY FAITH ALONE?

- Faith is the **ONLY** way
- “For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.”
Romans 3:20
- “We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.” Isaiah 64:6

WHY FAITH ALONE?

- Faith paints the whole picture
- “The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.” Romans 3:22-25

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SALVATION BY GRACE ALONE

- Grace is a gift of favor from God to men
- “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”
Ephesians 2:8

SALVATION BY GRACE ALONE

- Grace is extended without consideration of what we have or have not done
- “For he says to Moses, ‘I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.’ So then, it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.” Romans 9:15-16

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FORGIVENESS IN CHRIST ALONE

- Only God has the power to forgive sins
- “Who can forgive sins but God alone?” Mark 2:7
- Jesus is God
- Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” John 8:58

FORGIVENESS IN CHRIST ALONE

- Jesus is the only mediator between man and God
- “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” 1 Tim. 2:5
- “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6

FORGIVENESS IN CHRIST ALONE

- “Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.” Hebrews 4:14-15

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◆ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of **the glory of God.**

THE GLORY OF GOD ALONE

- “In Him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be **to the praise of His glory**. In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, **to the praise of His glory.**” Ephesians 1:13-14

THE GLORY OF GOD ALONE

- “Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, **to the glory of God the Father.**” Philippians 2:9-11
- “I am the Lord; that is my name; **my glory I give to no other,** nor my praise to carved idols.” Isaiah 42:8

WHY DO WE
APPLY THE WORD?

AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE ALONE

- “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17

AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE ALONE

- “And he said to them, 'Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, **teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.**’ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.’” Mark 7:6-8

AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE ALONE

- “Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” Acts 15:9-10

APPLYING THE WORD

WHAT THE
BIBLE
TEACHES

REST

WHAT
TRADITION
TAUGHT

WORK

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT REST

- The rest promised is a **NOUN**, not a **VERB**.
- We are promised rest by Jesus
- “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest**. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
Matthew 11:28-30

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT REST

- The rest is both already and not yet
- “So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.” Hebrews 4:9-10

IMAGINE IF YOU HAD TO...

- Always act in a way that makes you a worthy recipient of the grace God extends
- Add to your faith with a series of works to “prove yourself”
- Rely on other people for your forgiveness and right standing with God
- Follow a list of rules developed outside of God’s word, on top of following God’s word
- At the end, hope that you did enough!

ASK YOURSELF

- ◇ Do I recognize that the Bible is the sole authority for faith and practice?
- ◇ Do I understand that I am saved by the grace of God alone?
- ◇ Do I understand that I am justified by faith alone?
- ◇ Do I understand that salvation comes through Christ alone?
- ◇ Do I understand that grace, faith, salvation, are for the glory of God alone?
- ◇ Do I rejoice in the rest and peace this truth brings?

The Lord's Table



Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above the Heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Amen