ROMANS 5:6-11; 8:31-39

LESSON: GOD'S RECONCILING LOVE —April 23, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

ROMANS 5

Chapter 5:1-5 Now, since we are actuality justified as a result of faith, we can now have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace we stand and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, we turn around and also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation will work patience. Trials stirs patience, and patience stirs experience, and experience stirs hope. We also find out that hope does not make us ashamed because His love shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit sees to that.

LESSON: I. GOD PROVIDED SALVATION Romans 5:6-11

5:6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. This is saying that when we were spiritually weak, worthless, useless, and without strength, in due time; a destined time, an appropriate time, Christ died for us (the ungodly). We were the ungodly, sinners, godless, wicked, profane, having a different lifestyle than God. And we deserved to go to hell, yet, He loved us enough to die for us when we were in sin; weak and without strength.

5:7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. It was uncommon for a righteous man to die for another, yet once in a while or some perchance a man is brave enough to die for a good man; or dare to die for a generous friend. However, Jesus died for the ungodly; those who were the opposite of righteous and good. He died for those whom no man would die for; those who were of no value and of no good.

5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. "Commendeth" means to show, prove, exhibit, and demonstrate. We were sinners, yet God through Christ demonstrated His love toward us. The reason we could not understand this is because we have never known or experience such a love as this, and He assured and showed us that His love is much greater than anything we know about. He did not die for a good, righteous, godly man, but, while we were sinners; in that sinful state, Christ died for us. Christ died for the bad and the ugly. When God gave His Son, God was giving Himself. He was giving His love to those who did not deserve it. Think about the man that says he would die for his wife or his children just to save them. Well, he knows them, they are family, and it would take a lot of courage to do so, but, what about a man laying down his life for a murderer

or a thief? Well, that's what Jesus did and he knew what we were—sinners (from little sin to great sin)—still sinners. Think of the enormous price the Father paid in sending His Son to prove His love.

- **5:9** Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. There is no extent that God would go to save us.
- (1) God proved His love by giving up His only Begotten Son to die for us.
- (2) Then He justified us by Christ's blood.
- (3) Then He saved us from wrath.

The blood Jesus shed, has declared us not guilty. Being declared not guilty, we are saved from God's wrath. Jesus did not go to bat for us for nothing. We have that promise; that future assurance of His Saving Grace through Jesus' blood.

5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. Three points to consider in this verse:

- 1. <u>Sin broke the relationship between God and man</u>. Men became an enemy of God: sinners, and the ungodly of this world. The sinner cannot be said to be a friend of God. He opposes what God stands for. When any of us sin, we work against God and promote evil by word and example.
 - a. **An enemy of God** occurs when a sinner lives for himself. Why? Because God does not live for Himself. He lives for us and gives us what we need. God gave Himself up for us in the most supreme way possible when His only Begotten Son died.
 - b. **An enemy of God** occurs when the sinner lives for the world and worldly things. Why? Because he chooses the temporal (those things that passes away) over God, even knowing God has provided eternal life for him through the death of His Son.
- 2. Man is reconciled to God by the death of His Son Jesus Christ. Reconciliation means to change, to change thoroughly, to exchange, to change from enmity to friendship, to bring together, to restore. The idea is that there must be a change! Two persons who should have been together all along are brought together; two persons who had something between them are restored and reunited. Then a man truly believes that Jesus Christ died for him...
 - a. God accepts the death of Jesus Christ for the death of the man.
 - b. God accepts the sins bore by Christ as the sins committed by man.
 - c. God accepts the condemnation bore by Christ as the condemnation due to man.

Therefore, man is freed from his sins and the punishment due his sins. Christ bore both the sins and the punishment for man. And that man who truly believes becomes acceptable to God; reconciled forever and ever. It is the death of Christ and his shed blood which provide our atonement and redemption.

3. We are saved by His life. Christ died for our sins. He was raised for our justification. God raised Him up with

all power from the grave. He makes continual intercession for us. Heb.7:25 says "...to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him..." The life of Jesus Christ did not take away the penalty of our sins. But His life shows that death couldn't keep Him in the grave. His death took away the penalty of sin. But, Christ ever lives to take away the dominion of sin over us. We are continually kept and saved by His intercessory life.

5:11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement. God gives us joy through Christ. God is the One who reconciles, not men. He does it through Jesus Christ, His Son. We receive the atonement or (reconciliation of God and man) through Jesus Christ. We are no longer enemies of God. We rejoice in God as well as Jesus for they are one and on the same page. We should be overwhelmed and in awe of all that was done for us. We should be joyful because God decided to save us through His Son Jesus, instead of sending us to hell when we were really enemies of Him. Our joy comes in knowing the great love God has for us; what He has done, and what He's still doing for us. Glory Hallelujah! And what He has prepared for us in the world to come—a glorious triumphant entrance into heaven. What a joy when we finally see God's glory face to face! There's a joy when I speak His name—JESUS; when I say a prayer; when I think of His blessings; when I thank God for getting me to this point, and lastly to know where I'm seated—in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. *This joy I have the world didn't give it to me and the world can't take it away!* Are you feeling the joy now?

SUMMARY

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us, the ungodly, at the appropriate time shows God's love. A righteous man would hardly die for a good man, but that wasn't what God did for us. He showed and demonstrated His love toward the ungodly; we being weak and worthless. His Son Jesus Christ still died for us. His love toward the ungodly; we being weak and worthless, His Son Jesus Christ still died for us (5:6-8). Not only by dying for us, He justified us by His blood, and He saved us from the wrath of God. Now if we were enemies of God, we were reconciled to Him by the death of His Son. Also we were saved by His life (5:9-10). Not only that, we have reason to boast and have joy in God because we have received the atonement, reconciliation through Jesus Christ. He is the way back to God making us friends (5:11). (5:6-11).

ROMANS 8

II. GOD PROTECTS THE RELATIONSHIP Romans 8:31-39

8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?— Paul's assurance is in God—"Who can be against us, if God is for us?" Are you smiling? It is by faith in the calling and justification we have from God, that we can say that. When we say those words, we are empowered with strength to go on. http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html

When we say those words, we know that God foreknew and predestined us to be in the likeness of His Son. His purpose is at work and He has made every provision for us!

- **8:32** He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? God the Father spared not His own Son. The word "spared not" means that God did not hold back or refrain from giving up His own Son. God knew exactly what He was doing. He wanted man delivered, and He knew there was only **one way** for man to be saved—that is, through His Son. He did not refuse or even hesitate to give up His own Son. Giving His own Son for us was the greatest gift to all the world. Nothing could ever cost God anything close to the price He has paid in giving us His Son. Therefore, "how shall He not with Him freely give us all things?" It has to be with Christ, that He will be able to give us freely all things. It is in God's Son's image that we will be conformed to.
- **8:33** Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. This question is asking "Who shall bring accusation against the chosen ones of God, for it is God who pronounces them (us) righteous." Since, the "called" are justified by God, no one will be able to appeal God's verdict of justification. "Every tongue that attempts to do so will be silenced" (Isaiah 54:17).
- **8:34** Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. So, if no one can lay a charge against God's elect, then who can condemn us? Christ is the one who died in our place. He does not condemn us, even though we deserve it, He forgives us! God raised Jesus from the dead, which also gives us new life. God was satisfied with Christ dying for us, that now He sits at the right hand of Him. We can go to God through Christ in prayer because Christ is our Mediator, the One who makes intercession for us, the One who stands between God and man.
- **8:35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Paul is making a point to give assurance of God's love. There is no one strong enough or powerful enough that can compare to the love of Christ. Tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, or the sword may come and we may go through them. But, just because we go through them, it is not to separate us from the love of Christ. God's love is there through Christ and His Spirit.
- **8:36** As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Scriptures declares loudly and clearly the love of God. It is for Christ's sake "we are killed all the day long and counted as sheep for the slaughter; or brought as a lamb to the slaughter" Ps.44:22; Is.53:7b. We face death at every moment. We are reckoned no better than sheep marked for slaughter. Therefore, we are not exempted from suffering or even from being killed, but physical death will never separate us from Him.
- **8:37** Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. This verse says NO! http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html

Nay! In all the things a believer will go through, the one who gains the victory by struggle, they will still be conquerors; defeaters, victors. We do not merely hold our own, in the face of testing, but through suffering we are drawn closer to Christ and become more conformed to **His image**. This means the One (God) who has proven His love makes us more than conquerors, because we are linked with Jesus Christ. It's through Jesus by faith. His love is so strong that we can't be separated from Him.

8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,—Paul admits that he is so persuaded, so convinced, and have full assurance that there is nothing in death or life, in the realm of the spirit or superhuman powers, nor things present today, or things that shall come tomorrow will be able to separate him from the love of God.

8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. If there be any other creature than the ones named, that creature cannot separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SUMMARY:

Therefore, the believer can be assured and say—"If God be for us, who can be against us?" Paul's assurance is in God. God's purpose is at work and He has made every provision for us! There was only one way for man to be saved—that is, through His Son, and God did not spare Him, but He delivered Him up for us all. Giving up His own Son for us was the greatest gift to all the world. Therefore, "how shall He not with Him freely give us all things," for it will be with Christ that He is able to give us freely all things. Since, the "called" are justified by God, no one will be able to appeal God's verdict of justification. Then, who can condemn the justified? No one, for God was satisfied with Christ dying for us. He also raised Jesus from the dead, which also gives us new life. Now Jesus sits at the right hand of God, and makes intercession for us (8:31-34).

There is no one strong enough or powerful enough to separate us from the love of Christ. Scripture declares we face death at every moment. We are reckoned no better than sheep marked for slaughter, but death will never separate us from Him. Yet, in all these things we keep on gloriously conquering through God who loved us. Paul is persuaded that nothing can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (8:35-39).