

The background features a close-up of weathered stone masonry. A prominent circular archway is visible on the left side. A semi-transparent cross shape is overlaid on the right side of the image. The overall color palette is warm, dominated by golden-brown and yellow tones, suggesting a bright, sunny environment.

ROMANS

Week #1: The Gospel is “Good News”: (Romans 1:2-6)

1. It was promised long ago by God.
2. It is about His Son:
 - He is fully human – a descendent of King David.
 - He is fully God – raised from death by the Holy Spirit.
3. His name is Jesus Christ!
4. He is for everyone ... all people, all nations, all of us.

... But why is Jesus good news... and why do I need him?

Weeks 2-4: A Terrifying Reality: (Romans 1:17-3:20)

... No One Is Righteous In God's Sight.

1¹⁸ The **wrath** of God is being revealed against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness ...

Key: *What does God's wrath look like? What does He do?*

- He *abandons* us to our choices.
- He lets us have what we want ... *all* of it.
 - the Pagan: (1:18-32)
 - the Self-Righteous: (2:1-16)
 - the Religious: (2:17-3:20)

Weeks 2-4: A Terrifying Reality: (Romans 1:17-3:20)

²³ For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

The Truth: The only righteousness acceptable to God is His own.

- the way to God is impossible by human effort

Our Dilemma: All of us stand before God morally deficient.

- the *pagan*, the *self-righteous* & the *religious* all share the same fate – an inability to satisfy God's moral standard ... *Perfection*.

Question: Is My Dilemma Fair?

- Is it fair that God holds me to a righteousness that I cannot attain?

It would perhaps be unfair if God didn't do anything about it, but He has done something ...

- **In Jesus, God has imparted upon me the one thing needed – His Righteousness in place of mine!**

²¹ But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. ²² We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ – this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

Weeks 5-6: The Gospel Really *Is* Good News:

1. Because it satisfies my need for righteousness: (Rom. 3:20-25a)

- In Jesus I am made righteous – justified – in God's sight!

*²³ All of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ **God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith.***

Weeks 5-6: The Gospel Really *Is* Good News:

1. Because it satisfies my need for righteousness: (Rom. 3:20-25a)

- In Jesus I am made righteous – *justified* – in God’s sight!

2. Because it satisfies God’s need for justice: (Rom. 3:25-30)

- In Jesus, God is proven both righteous & just!

*²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood ... **This sacrifice shows that God was being fair ...** ²⁶ **he did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.***

Summary: God is so committed to mercy that He forgives ... and He is so committed to justice that He put His Son on a cross to pay in full the penalty for my sin.

- in Jesus Christ every sin has been fully paid.
- in Jesus, God's wrath is *appeased* ... because His justice is *satisfied* – my penalty is paid in full!

This Week: What *Justification* Brings Me. (Romans 5:1-11)

... Six Realities that I cannot lose in Jesus.

5 *Therefore*, since we have been *justified* through faith ...

This Week: What *Justification* Brings Me. (Romans 5:1-11)

... Six Realities that I cannot lose in Jesus.

1. Peace. I am no longer God's enemy. (v. 1)

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

- A new relationship has been established between God & I.
 - I am blameless in His eyes.
 - I am adopted into His family.
 - There is no condemnation towards me anymore.
 - Nothing removes this relationship.

8 ¹*There is no condemnation now for those who belong to Jesus Christ ...*

³³ *Who dares accuse us* whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. ³⁴ *Who then will condemn us?* No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

³⁵ *Can anything ever separate us* from Christ's love? *Does it mean God no longer loves us* if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? ... ³⁷ **No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.**

Romans 8

This Week: What *Justification* Brings Me. (Romans 5:1-11)

... Six Realities that in Jesus I cannot lose.

1. Peace. I am no longer God's enemy. (v. 1)
2. Grace. I live secure in God's grace. (v. 2)

5 ¹*Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access into this grace in which we now stand.*

- God's grace for me is continual ... ongoing ... never-changing.
 - I live *everyday* in the shelter of His grace.
 - I come *confidently* into His presence because of His grace.
 - My sin will never cancel my salvation ... because of His grace.

If God was not fully satisfied with the saving work of Christ, there could be no permanent peace. But He *is* fully satisfied with the work of Christ and *there is* now a permanent peace ... We are not now living in God's Kingdom, wobbling, hanging on the edge, and hoping not to fall off. We are living in a settled, permanent condition of grace – undeserved forgiveness. This means our sins never cancel out our salvation because we live in the power of Jesus' death that fully satisfied His Father ...

We do not move from the realm of grace in our salvation to the realm of works in our sanctification – it is utterly inconceivable that the sentence of the Divine Judge should ever be revoked or reversed.

MacArthur

This Week: What *Justification* Brings Me. (Romans 5:1-11)

... Six Realities that in Jesus I cannot lose.

1. Peace. I am no longer God's enemy. (v. 1)
2. Grace. I live secure in God's grace. (v. 2)
3. Hope. I look forward to God's glory. (v. 2)

5 ¹Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access into this grace in which we now stand. **And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.**

- Because I am no longer God's enemy ... and because I live securely in His grace ... I boast in His promise that when this life ends I will stand in His glory – still fully loved & completely secure!

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3. Hope. I look forward to God's glory. (v. 2)
4. Holy Spirit. I see everything – even suffering – differently. (v.v. 3-8)

*³ We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. 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.***

Note: I am saved not only from the *penalty* of sin, but from the *power* of sin. And my new freedom is exhibited most thoroughly when I suffer ... and reflect the character of Jesus to the world.

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3. **Hope**. I look forward to God's glory. (v. 2)
4. **Holy Spirit**. I see everything – even suffering – differently. (v.v. 3-8)

5. **Deliverance**. I am saved from God's wrath. (v.v. 9-10)

*⁹ Since we have now been justified in God's sight by the blood of Jesus, will he not also save us from God's condemnation? ¹⁰ For since our friendship with God was restored **by the death of his Son** while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved **through the life of his Son**.*

³ I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said ...

¹⁷ For if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins ... ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

²⁰ But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

1 Corinthians 15

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3. Hope. I look forward to God's glory. (v. 2)
4. Holy Spirit. I see everything – even suffering – differently. (v.v. 3-8)
5. Deliverance. I am saved from God's wrath. (v.v. 9-10)
6. Joy. I ***boast*** in God's friendship with me through Jesus. (v.v. 11)

¹¹ And we boast joyfully in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

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“boast” (Gk) – *kauchometha* - to glory in; to rejoice over.

- used 3x here by Paul:
 - (v.2) – we ***boast*** in the hope seeing God's glory.
 - (v.3) – we ***glory*** in life's tribulations ...
 - (v. 11) – we ***rejoice*** in being reconciled with God.

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5. Deliverance. I am saved from God's wrath. (v.v. 9-10)

6. **Joy. I *boast* in God's friendship with me through Jesus.** (v.v. 2,3,11)
 - My past: I boast because Jesus has reconciled me with God.
 - My present: I boast because suffering has a purpose – godly character.
 - My future: I boast because I will see God in all His glory.

The Point: Because in Jesus I am fully *justified*, and God is completely *satisfied*, I have unquenchable optimism.

- I am filled with peace, live daily in grace, look forward in hope, rejoice in suffering, am safe from God's judgment and glory in His friendship with me.

³⁸ I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. ³⁹ No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8