

JUSTIFIED THROUGH CHRIST

Pastor Joseph Hovsepian

Romans 5:1-11

There is a tremendous desire, longing, need for lasting peace, in this restless and insecure world today. “We want peace” is the collective cry around the world. Peace is a very precious possession!

This longing, this desire is universal. In some languages the standard greeting is “**PEACE**” for example in Hebrew is: “Shalom” in Arabic is “Salem”

Religions, Psychiatrists, Educators, Theologians and all those who have tried to come up with a formula that would bring peace in our lives and the world in general, have failed and will fail unless they recognize that the only way to have peace is making peace with God first, by recognizing our problem which is, being separated from God due to sin and the refusal to acknowledge Him and make peace with Him.

The human race has been condemned to death, physically and spiritually. And unless we are absolved, acquitted from our past and justified, we will not have peace and remain guilty until we are declared innocent by God through Jesus Christ.

Peace is not just a subjective feeling like “Peace of Mind” but rather it is an objective status, condition, a new relationship with God. The Bible says that: Once we were His enemies, but now we are his friends.

Colossians 1:21-22

“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.”

“That God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.” **2 Corinthians 5:19**

While people are searching to find personal peace in man made things and philosophies, in vain. God is still offering real peace to all those who come to “Him through faith.”

Romans 5:1 makes that very clear.

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our lord Jesus Christ.”

The following 3 questions are often asked:

- 1) How do we get peace, real peace?
- 2) What will it do for my future?
- 3) What will it do for me, now?

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How do we get “PEACE”?

Peace with God comes only through faith in Jesus Christ! “Yes, but how?” you may ask. Well, first let me tell you something’s that will not bring peace.

- Sorrow for sins, just feeling awful and bad for sins of the past.
- Walking down the church aisle won’t do it either.
- Keeping or trying to keep the 10 commandments won’t bring any one closer to Salvation and peace, because no one can keep all 10 commandments, no one was in the past and no one will ever be able to.
- Prayers and religions cannot save either, unless it is a prayer of repentance prayed to God through Jesus Christ.

To the question – “**How Do we Get Peace?**” The answer is: Only through **Faith in Christ**

And, to the question “**Who Can Have it?**” The answer is very simple. Although there are those who love to complicate things with manmade doctrines and philosophies.

The Bible is very clear that anyone who comes to HIM in repentance and asks for forgiveness will be forgiven and saved and receive God’s peace.

Jesus said: “***Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.***”
Matthew 11:28

In other words to make peace with God, you must by faith come to God and confess your sins to Him and invite Jesus Christ to come and take over your life.

What will it do for my Future?

Verse 2 says: “*And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.*” How can those who ignore or reject God and His Salvation through Christ, rejoice in the hope of a future, with God?

Every step brings the unbeliever closer to eternal death and judgement.

Every heart beat moves us closer to our eternal future. The believer to an eternal heaven, and unbelievers to eternal pain, suffering and hell.

Without making peace with God we are not ready to die. And we are not ready to live, until we are ready to die.

We cannot be sure of heaven until we make peace with God. Peace with God enables us to look forward to the future.

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Jesus said: *“In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”* **John 14:2-3**

The believer who has made peace with God can look forward to meeting loved ones in heaven, and being with our Lord Jesus.

What will it do for me now?

Peace with God gives an understanding and appreciation of life now! The person who makes peace with God, finally begins to see a purpose, a design in his or her life, life becomes meaningful. Even when life brings tribulation, difficulties and suffering.

“Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.” **Romans 5:3-5**

- Trouble often makes us patient
- Patients gives us experience
- Experience brings us hope
- Hope does not disappoint us
- We learn how to live and enjoy a Spirit filled life.

The Holy Spirit fills our hearts with God’s love, and we are then able to love.

This love helps us to be confident, even in difficulties.

God invites everyone to be at peace with Him. He is inviting you too, to make peace with Him, if you haven’t yet.

Jesus came and died to bring peace in our hearts and lives.

Have you made peace with God yet?

I hope you have or you will ...