

## **Reasons to Rejoice (Romans 5:1-11)**

### I. Paul's Early Life and Ministry

- A. Acts 22:3  $\approx$  a Jew born in Tarsus, studied under Gamaliel in Jerusalem (Acts 5:34).
- B. Outside Christian circles, Paul was not well known. He was a contemporary of Josephus but was not mentioned in any of Josephus' writings.
- C. He was probably from an affluent family because he had lived in Tarsus but was trained as a young person several hundred miles away in Jerusalem.
- D. According to Iraneaus, Paul was saved about 12 months after Pentecost.
- E. He was a prolific writer, having written at least 13 and maybe 14 books of the New Testament.
- F. As recorded in Acts 9:3-6, he was saved on the road to Damascus.
- G. After spending 3 years in Damascus (Galatians 1:18), he probably returned to Tarsus for 10 silent years (35-45 AD), where he witnessed to the people in his home town and possibly started his first churches (Galatians 1:20-21). His many sufferings, which are recorded in II Corinthians 11:23-28 were probably during that time in Tarsus.
- H. By trade, he was a tent maker (Acts 18:3).
- I. His three missionary journeys were 47-49 AD, 50-52 AD, and 52-56 AD.
- J. He was imprisoned twice. The second time, he was martyred (around 61-62 AD). In Acts 28:30-31, he was released from his first imprisonment. In II Timothy, he was in prison for the second and final time.
- K. He probably wrote the Book of Romans around 55 AD, during his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey. He had written I and II Corinthians around 54 AD.

### II. The Book of Romans

- A. According to Dr. Harold Wilmington of Liberty University, Romans is probably the most important book in the Bible, theologically speaking, and it was written by probably the most important person in the Bible, not counting the Lord.
- B. The church in Rome was probably started by converts from Pentecost, and it contained mostly Gentile, dynamic believers.
- C. The book can be divided into four sections.
  - 1. The court house of Law (Romans 1-5).
    - a. You have a court recorder (1:1-17).
    - b. The trial of the Ages (1:18-3:31).
    - c. Two spokesmen (Abraham and David (4:1-25).
    - d. A summary of the five blessings of justification (5:1-11).
  - 2. The powerhouse of Grace (Romans 6-8).
  - 3. A synagogue which represents Israel (Romans 9-11).
  - 4. The temple of God (Romans 12-16).
- D. The Book of Romans teaches that God is righteous, that He demands righteousness, and that He provides righteousness.

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III. In Romans, chapter 4, Paul showed that Abraham was justified without circumcision and that David was justified apart from the Law of Moses.

- A. David is the most talked about person in the Bible (1,118 references). Abraham was the 5<sup>th</sup> most talked about person in the Bible (306).
- B. Psalm 51:16-17 shows that David was justified apart from the Law.
- C. Abraham was justified by faith. He believed God (Romans 4:3).
- D. Abraham was justified by faith, and that justification is recorded for our benefit (Romans 4:20-25).

IV. In Romans 5:1-11, Paul tells us what we have in Christ.

- A. Justification and peace with God (Romans 5:1).
- B. Access to God and hope (Romans 5:2).
- C. Assurance from God (Romans 5:3-4) - suffering > experience > helping others. God creates all circumstances, He keeps people in His love, He makes trials a blessing and a lesson, and He will deliver in His time. The will of God will never leave us where the grace of God cannot sustain us. In everything give thanks.
- D. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5).
- D. Proof of the Lord's amazing unconditional love (Romans 5:6-8).
- E. Assurance concerning the future (Romans 5:9-11). He is able to keep us.

V. Review of the roles of Jesus and the Holy Spirit

- A. Holy Spirit (the third Person of the Trinity)
  - 1. Regeneration and renewing (Titus 3:5, II Corinthians 5:17)
  - 2. Baptism into the body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:13)
  - 3. Indwelling (I Corinthians 6:19)
  - 4. Sealed unto the day of redemption (Ephesians 4:30)
  - 5. Makes intercession for us in our prayers (Romans 8:26)
  - 6. Conforming us to the image of Christ (Romans 8:29)
- B. Jesus (the second Person of the Trinity)
  - 1. Our sin substitute (John 3:14-15)
  - 2. Propitiation (a means of appeasing) with God (I John 4:10)
  - 3. Reconciliation (a restoration of favor) does not save us but makes us savable (II Corinthians 5:18)
  - 4. Creation (John 1:1-3, Ephesians 3:9)
- C. Jesus is the Instrument of our salvation, and the Holy Spirit is the Conductor of our salvation. Jesus made it possible, and the Holy Spirit makes it happen.

VI. Next week's lesson: Romans 6:3-14