

Romans 5:1-11, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - Jump for Joy!

Romans 5:1, 11

Paul opens and closes Romans 5:1-11 with these words: “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have *peace* with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom. 5:1), and “We also *exult* in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the *reconciliation*” (Rom. 5:11). The word “exult” means to show or feel jubilation. It comes from a Latin word which means “to leap up.” Why should reconciliation/peace with God make us jump for joy? The answer is clear. To have Almighty God as an enemy is more fearful than all else (Mt. 10:28), for “it is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Heb. 10:31). But to have that same all-powerful God on our side is the greatest of all blessings.

Read Romans 8:31; Psalm 118:6

☐ Tuesday - A New Beginning.

Romans 5:1-2

The apostle writes, “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our *introduction* by faith into this grace in which we stand” (Rom. 5:1-2). Justification by grace through faith is just the beginning of the Christian life. It is the starting line. Congratulations, you are in the race! Now, “let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus...” (Heb. 12:1-2). God is looking for strong finishers, not just good starters (2 Tim. 4:7).

Read 1 Corinthians 9:24

☐ Wednesday - A Positive Chain Reaction.

Romans 5:3-4

The apostle Paul knew all about trials and tribulation (1 Cor. 4:11-13; 2 Cor. 11:23-28). And this was his conclusion and response, “And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope” (Rom. 5:3-4). If we respond in the right way, then our trials will set off a great chain reaction, just as Paul describes here. How are you doing Christian? Are your trials making you better or bitter? Read James 1:2-4

☐ Thursday - What's So Good About Being Good?

Romans 5:3-4

Once again we read, “And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope” (Rom. 5:3-4). Look at the last two links in this chain. How does proven character produce hope? Stop and think about that for a moment before you read on. The answer, at least in part, is this: There is an eternity yet to be lived, an eternity in which the Christian's character will be rewarded (1 Cor. 3:11-15; 2 Cor. 5:10), and the nature of those rewards is beyond all comprehension. “Surely there is a reward for the righteous!” (Psa. 58:11). Read Romans 8:18; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 2 Corinthians 4:17

☐ Friday - Fruit-Filled Evangelism.

Romans 5:5

There is a radical change that takes place in the heart of the true child of God. It is called the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). The child of God, filled with the Spirit of God, can love the unloving and be gracious to the ungracious. “When we are reviled, we bless” (1 Cor. 4:12). How? “The love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us” (Rom. 5:5). With the Gospel as our message and the fruit of the Spirit as our method, we may yet see the hardest heart won to Christ.

Read Romans 12:14, 17, 21

☐ Saturday - Enemies Made Children.

Romans 5:8, 10

God adopted His children from among His enemies. Who does that? God sent His Son to die for you, Christian, when you had not one particle of love for Him. “While we were yet *sinners*, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8), and “while we were *enemies* we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son” (Rom. 5:10). “O what manner of love the Father has given unto us, that we would be called children of God” (1 John 3:1). Meditate today on God's amazing grace.

Read Romans 8:32