

All My Hope; Romans 5:1-5

- I. Justified
 - a. "Just as if I'd" never sinned
 - b. I imagine Adam in the Garden
 - i. Genesis 2:15 (ESV) ¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.
 - ii. Genesis 2:18 (ESV) ¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."
 - iii. I don't know how long Adam and Eve were in the Garden before they ate from the tree, but until that time they were truly sinless
 - c. We are not sinless – "I'm no stranger to prison, I've worn shackles and chains"
 - d. 1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (ESV) ⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.
- II. Rejoice
 - a. Romans 5:1–4 (ESV) 1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,
 - b. We rejoice because of our hope
 - i. Hope; a confident expectation (in the resurrection of Jesus)
 - ii. Since we know He has been resurrected; we know we shall be as well
 - iii. Romans 6:5 (ESV) 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.
 - c. This body that has suffered and endured has the hope of change – "we will never be the same"
 - i. 1 Corinthians 15:49–51 (ESV) 49 Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. 50 I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed**,
 - ii. "We will never be the same"
 - iii. The next verse says, "In a moment;" where the word 'atom' comes from, meaning indivisible or a moment that cannot be divided or broken down any further, an instant
 - d. No wonder we are encouraged to rejoice!
 - e. This sin-spotted, blemished body will be changed to an immortal one that will be in the very presence of the Almighty and the Savior
 - f. All my hope is in Jesus

III. Washed by the Blood

- a. Romans 5:5 (ESV) ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
- b. God's love is what (should) fundamentally changes who we are (our essential structure, our function)
- c. 1 John 2:1–2 (ESV) ¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
- d. Sin changed us, separated us from God. Rejoice, Jesus' blood bridges the separation
- e. Blood
 - i. For Atonement
 - ii. Leviticus 17:11 Leviticus 17:11 (ESV) ¹¹ For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.
 - iii. Exodus 12:13 (ESV) ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.
 - iv. A foreshadow of the blood of Jesus
 - v. Ephesians 2:13 (ESV) ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
 - vi. 1 John 1:7–9 (ESV) ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- f. Cleanse
 - i. We wash our hands all the time
 1. They continually get dirty every day, multiple times each day
 2. I tell my kids every time they come in from playing outside, "wash your hands"
 3. We tell them to wash before using their hands to eat a meal
 4. The point is the 'cleansing' our hands must be done repeatedly to keep them clean
 - ii. The Greek tense of this word is a past completed action with ongoing future effect
 1. One cleanse and that is all we need (past completed action)
 2. 1 Peter 3:21 (ESV) ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
 3. "But we continue to sin, don't we need to be continually cleansed?"
 4. 1 John 1:8 (ESV) ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

- 5. YES! We must be continually cleansed, thank God for the blood of Jesus that continually (a past completed action with ongoing future effect) cleanses us!
 - 6. We've been down to the river, we've been washed by the blood
 - g. All our hope must be in Jesus, the only one who can wash us clean and keep us cleansed!
- IV. All My Hope
 - a. We're no strangers to prison, we've worn shackles and chains
 - b. But we've been down to the river, we've been washed clean
 - c. Thank God our yesterday's gone