

JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

We begin a new series of studies on the doctrinal subject of JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH taken from Romans Chapters 4 - 5.

(Rom.5:1) “Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

I chose to introduce this series with **(Rom.5:1)** because of the word “**Therefore** (oun) (an inferential conjunction)” because it emphasizes the verbal connection between:

- “**having been justified** (dikaioo/ a.p.ptc.nplm)”
- “**we have** (echo/ p.a.ind.1pl) **peace** (eirene/ asf) **with God.**”

When it is used this way, the student should ask, “**why is therefore used?**” It is used to emphasize a doctrinal subject previously discussed - “Justification by faith” (Rom.4:1-5) (read).

Martin Luther discovered Justification by Faith doctrinally by the study of the Romans chapters 4-5. It changed his theology and his life forever.

Principle: “The person who has been justified by faith (made righteous) by the grace gospel of Jesus Christ will always have peace with God”. (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; Rom.5:1)

This lesson will study Introduction to Justification by Faith by the following four points.

1. We will begin with a brief study of the historical background to the Book of Romans.

Paul wrote the Book of Romans about 57-58 AD from Corinth while on his third missionary evangelism trip (MET) which was the result of his call to Macedonian. (Acts 16:9-10) [Go westward].

Paul wrote 1 & 2 Corinthians and Romans while on this third MET.

Tertius penned it for Paul while attending the house church of Gaius in Corinth.

- “I, **Tertius**, who write this letter, greet you in the Lord.” (Rom.16:22)
- “**Gaius**, host to me and to the whole church, greets you.” (Rom.16:23a).

Paul was tri-lingual in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. But he chose to write all his Epistles in koine Greek. Koine Greek was the language of immigrants and common workers. Historians remark that while the Romans may have conquered the Greek nation, the Greeks conquered the Roman citizenry.

2. What makes the Book of Romans interesting is that Paul wrote to a Gentile Church which he did not establish.

(Rom.1:7) “To all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints; Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Paul’s missionary evangelism effort, on the eastern side of Mediterranean Sea, is about to be completed and he is planning a 4th MET westward through Rome to Spain.

(Rom.15:23-25) “But now, with no further place for me in these regions, and since I have had for many years a longing to come to you. **Whenever I go to Spain** - for I hope to see you in passing, and to be helped on my way there by you, when I have first enjoyed our company for a while - but now, I am going to Jerusalem serving the saints.” (1 Cor. chapter 16)

Paul praised the Roman Church:

(Rom.1:8) “I First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world.” (Rom.1:8-17)

3. The church at Rome must have been established out of the missionary evangelism of Acts 2 (Pentecost) with the “Visitors from Rome” (Acts 2:5-12/ 2:10).

Paul mentions several mutual friends who were connected to his Bible study in Corinth.

For example:

(Rom.16:1-16) “I recommend to you our sister **Phoebe**, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea, that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also been a helper of many, and of myself as well.

Greet **Prisca** and **Aquila**, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles; also *greet the church that is in their house*. Greet **Epaenetus**, my beloved, who is the first convert to Christ from Asia. Greet **Mary**, who has worked hard for you. Greet **Andronicus** and **Junia**, my kinsfolk and my fellow prisoners, who are outstanding in the view of the apostles, who also were in Christ before me. Greet **Ampliatius**, my beloved in the Lord. Greet **Urbanus**, our fellow worker in Christ, and **Stachys** my beloved. Greet **Apelles**, the approved in Christ. Greet **those who are of the household of Aristobulus**. Greet **Herodion**, my kinsman. Greet **those of the household of Narcissus**, who are in the Lord. Greet **Tryphaena** and **Tryphosa**, workers in the Lord. Greet **Persis** the beloved, who has worked hard in the Lord. Greet **Rufus**, a choice man in the Lord, **also his mother and mine**. Greet **Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers and sisters with them**. Greet **Philologus** and **Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them**. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you”.

4. We will divide the study of the entire Book of Romans into four doctrinal sections.

- **Romans Chapters 1-5** **Salvation doctrines**
- Romans Chapters 6-8 Spirituality doctrines
- Romans Chapters 9-1 Scriptural dispensation doctrines
- Romans Chapters 12-16 Spiritual growth doctrines.

We have divided Rom.1-5 into two doctrinal sections of study.

- Romans Chapters 1-3 Justified by faith apart from the Law (Rom.3:26)
- **Romans Chapter 4-5** **Justification by Faith in Christ by grace** **(Rom.5:1)**