

Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States



Chapter 5

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Introduction



- In this chapter, St. Paul discusses the blessings of such justification:
 - There is peace with God
 - ✤ We have access to grace in which we stand
 - There is cause for rejoicing in hope
 - We have experienced God's love
 - There is salvation from God's wrath
 - ✤ Joy in reconciliation with God

Introduction



- In this chapter also St. Paul compares Christ to Adam
- Through one man, Adam, sin and death entered the world, and the consequences have led to the death of many
- In a similar way, through one man, Christ, many may now become righteous
- Through Jesus' death on the cross, justification is made possible for many



- After we were enemies with God because of our sins, now having been justified through our Lord Jesus Christ, we have peace with Him
- Also through our justification, we have access to the grace of God and the gifts of the Spirit
- > This gift (in which we stand) is a continuous one
- Also now we have hope in the glory of God
- So, we are rejoice in this hope even during the time of tribulation



- Having this hope, in tribulations we learn how to persevere through the Grace of God
- Perseverance builds in us character because we will be purified from our impurities
- > A purified character will have more hope
- Since this hope is not in us but in God, it does not disappoint
- This hope is based on another blessing of justification (the manifestation of God's love)



- Having been justified, we received the Holy Spirit who poured in our hearts and opened our eyes to see the love of God
- Being confident in this love, our hope is solid
- This love was manifested in Christ's death for us
- > We were without strength and ungodly not able to save ourselves
- In due time (fullness of time), he died for us, the ungodly



- The love of Christ is an unconditional, limitless, and sacrificial love
- Righteous man: righteous in himself
- Good man: both righteous and does good things for others
- It is very rare to see a person dies for a righteous man or even a good one, but Christ died for us, sinners
- Through His death and our justification, we are saved from the wrath



- If while enemies, He reconciled us with Himself through His death, no doubt now being reconciled, He will save us through His life (resurrection)
- We rejoice in God because through the Lord Jesus Christ we have received the reconciliation
- Being reconciled, we have received the Holy Spirit with His fruit in us (joy)
- These are the six blessings of justification (peace, grace, hope, love, salvation, and joy)



- Through Adam, sin and consequently death entered the world and spread to all
- For all sinned in Adam (the original sin)
- Before the law sin was in the world although not revealed and thus not imputed (no law)
- Nevertheless death (the natural wages of sin) reigned from Adam to Moses even over those who have not transgressed in the likeness of Adam
- The difference between sin and transgression



- Adam is the type of Christ (the second Adam) although there is a big difference between the offense and the free gift
- Adam's offense brought death to many, Christ's grace abounds even more to many
- One offense produced the judgment of condemnation, but many offenses that He carried on the cross produced the free gift of justification for many



- By Adam's offense death reigns, but those who receive the gift of righteousness will reign in life through Christ
- Through Adam's offense judgment came on all men, resulting in condemnation
- Through Christ's righteous act (His obedience unto death of the cross) grace came to all, resulting in justification of life
- By Adam's disobedience many were made sinners



- By Christ's obedience many will be made righteous
- Law entered that sin might abound: to be revealed and we realize our need for salvation
- Where sin abounded, grace abounded much more because it is not God's desire that we perish
- Just as death reigns through sin, so Grace reigns through righteousness to eternal life through Christ

Conclusion



- St. Paul explains that Christians have "peace", how is that peace obtained?
- > Why should we 'glory in tribulations'?
- What is a good definition of "hope"?
- How does God show His love toward us?
- How were we reconciled with God?
- Name some benefits we enjoy as the result of justification
- What is the result of Adam's sin and free gift?
- What comparison is made between Adam and Christ?