

“Right Now Realities” Romans 5:1-11 Sunday 9AM

For the Christian, life needs to have both an anchor and a mainsail. We need both a foundation and a flight. In Romans chapter five, the Apostle Paul lays out several different realities that presently exist for every single Jesus-follower. The degree to which we understand and live out these realities determines so much of the quality of our relationship with God while we are here on earth. Do you know what these right-now realities are? Are you believing them? As we begin new seasons with the Father, we must embrace these decrees over our lives in order to live out the destiny assigned to us in the Kingdom.

I. We Possess Oneness with God (1-2)

A. Our guilt is gone (1a) - “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith...”

B. That war is over (1b) - “...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

C. The future is certain (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.”

II. We Experience Growing Strength (3-4)

A. An unconventional approach to our pain (3a) - “Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings...”

B. An uncompromised commitment to God’s process (3b-4) - “...knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope...”

C. An unparalleled revelation of God’s presence (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.”

III. We Marvel at Being Pursued (6-8)

A. We were all unlikely candidates (6) - “For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.”

B. Jesus displays an unusual commitment (7) - “For one will scarcely die for a righteous person - though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die...”

C. We have all received unparalleled care (8) - “...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

IV. We Rejoice in His Full Acceptance (9-11)

A. Perfect standing before God, right now! (9a) - “Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood...”

B. No fear of the wrath of God, right now! (9b) - “...much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God.”

C. Relational peace with God, right now! (10-11) - “For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”

11:15AM Notes Below

“Elevating Our Expectations” Revelation 3:7-13 Sunday 11:15AM

Many followers of Jesus do not yet grasp how deeply committed He is to taking us to new and unexplored heights in the Kingdom. The Gospel is never at a stand-still. The King is always moving forward and, consequently, so are those who follow Him. Jesus once told a group of believers that, despite their outwardly unimpressive standing, He was inviting them to enter new adventures with Him. From His words to them, we can learn what to expect from our King in our own lives. What does it look like for a group of believers to live with Jesus going before them while also having their backs? This message teaches us all how to boldly walk through doors of opportunity that the King is opening for their good and His own glory.

I. Glorious Headship over the Church (7-8)

A. Jesus is the watchful leader - “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write...” **He knew who & where they were**

B. Jesus is the perfect leader - “...The words of the holy one, the true one...”

C. Jesus is the powerful leader - “...who has the key of David **{Divine authority}**, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens **{Sovereign prerogative}**.”

D. Jesus is the interactive leader (8) - “I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept My word and have not denied My name.”

Watching us, working on our behalf, knowing our limitations, measuring our obedience, listening to our words.

II. Fierce Opposition against the Church (9)

A. Empty religion will oppose (9a) - “Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan...”

B. Deceptive messaging will confuse (9b) - "...who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie..."

C. Heavenly favor will arise (9c) - "...behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you."

III. Promised Victory for the Church (10-12)

A. We cannot underestimate endurance (10) - "Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth."

B. We will be militant in love and loyalty (11) - "Behold I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."

C. We must remember our destiny (12) - "The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from My God out of heaven, and My own new name."

Our ultimate future is settled forever! We are: God's Pillars, God's People, God's Property

IV. Required Confidence from the Church (13)

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

A. Are we open to Faith in God's plan? **Believing**

B. Are we open to Follow God's plan? **Beginning**

C. Are we open to Fulfilling God's plan? **Becoming**

5PM Notes Below

“Unpacking the Successful Life” Deuteronomy 30:11-20 Sunday 5PM

Everyone wants to be successful. Sadly, not everyone agrees on the definition of a successful life. For all Christians, God has both defined the successful life and the means to achieve it. This message gives us Heaven’s perspective on what it means to live a successful life in the sight of God. Mark it down: the American Dream is almost completely devoid of what success looks like in the Kingdom of God. Material success is vastly overrated, while Kingdom success remains greatly undefined among so many believers. Don’t be fooled by what the world is offering us - God wants to unpack His version of success for us so we can put it on every day of our lives.

I. The Simplicity Of Success (11-15)

A. Success has been revealed (11) - “For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off.”

B. Success is attainable (12-14) - “It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ 13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ 14 But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.”

C. Success is up to you (15) - “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.”

II. The Secret Of Success (16)

A. It involves your will - “If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today...”

B. It involves your priorities - “...by loving the Lord your God...”

C. It involves your actions - “...by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments and His statutes and His rules...”

D. It involves your confidence - “...then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.”

III. The Slaying Of Success (17-18)

A. A warning about our hearts (17a) - “But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear...”

B. A warning about our walks (17b) - “...but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them...”

C. A warning about our losses (18) - I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.”

IV. The Steps Of Success (19-20)

A. Choose (19) - “I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live...”

B. Devote (20a) - “...loving the Lord your God...”

C. Trust (20b) - “...obeying his voice and holding fast to Him...”

D. Understand (20c) - “...for He is your life and length of days...”

E. Receive (20d) - “...that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”