

ROMANS 5:1-11
'What Justification brings'
Sola Fide - Faith Alone

*"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,
we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ"*

Romans 5:1

'Innocent until proven guilty.' I am sure you have heard of this saying before. In our series so far, we have seen that there is no one truly innocent in God's eyes, the good news however is that we have a God who acted on our behalf and as a result stands with a gavel and declares, 'NOT GUILTY,' despite our broken record – through faith alone and Christ alone.

We are going to unpack this idea as we continue our series, 'Romans in Eight Verses'.

READ - Romans 5:1-11

What comes to your mind when you hear the word 'Justification'? Write down some of your thoughts below.

In the verses you have read, Paul highlights some incredible benefits that come from being justified by Christ - what are they?

V1 -

V2 -

V2b-5 -

V6-8 -

V9 -

V11 -

What happens when a person is justified according to vv10-11?

Why do you think Paul keeps repeating the phrase '*much more*' (vv9-10) and '*more than that*' (v11)?

Based on these verses, how could we pray? What impact does the incredible truth that we have been justified by faith alone in Christ have on us today? How can we communicate this by our words and actions to those around us?

Why not chat about these things or take some time to record your thoughts:

Watch this week's video [here](#).

SOME ADDITIONAL READING:

Galatians 2:15-20

Ephesians 2

What could opponents of the 'Faith Alone' doctrine point to? Many would point to James chapter 2 and say that this contradicts Paul's teaching? If you look closely at James 2 you will see that they are both in complete harmony with one another.

Remember to let CONTEXT be your guide. James' concern is different to Paul's - while Paul addresses how the ungodly are made right before God, James warns us about an empty and meaningless claim to faith. James 2:14, "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?"

James talks about the demonstration of faith and Paul talks about the declaration of God based on the work of Christ who was made us right in God's sight.

This table might be useful for us¹:

	PAUL	JAMES
Issue	Self-righteous Judaism	Dead Orthodoxy
Justification	Declaration of innocence before God	Evidence of the believer's useful faith before man
Genesis	Genesis 15:6	Genesis 22
Faith	Justification - 'Abram'	Sanctification - 'Abraham'
Works	Favour with God	Believer's moral deeds

If you have any questions/thoughts please don't hesitate in getting in touch - michael.stoneman@bloomfieldpresbyterian.org

¹ Table taken from the "Polite Leader – Sola Fide" video – [watch video](#).