

## Peace <sup>(1)</sup> With God

Text : **Romans 5: 1-11**

( Also read ... Col. 1: 13-18 )

### **INTRODUCTION :**

- A. We're all called upon to maintain relationships on many different levels.**
1. Government
  2. Employment
  3. Social & Family
- B. Each relationship has it's own dynamic.**
1. We can set the terms for optional relationships. ( *social* )
  2. Those who have authority over us can legislate the terms of relationship.
    - a. One's success depends upon his ability to maintain relationship with his employer.
    - b. They have authority so we must maintain a relationship with them on their terms.
    - c. God is the ultimate authority – totally sovereign.
- C. Democracy has distorted our view of power and sovereignty.**
1. Most Americans have never experienced living under absolute domination.
  2. Unlike the English monarchy, a true king is totally sovereign.
    - a. He makes or changes laws by decree.
    - b. There is no authority above his.
    - c. Life and death are under his control.
  3. Kings do not allow decent, disobedience or challenges to their authority.
- D. God reigns sovereign over all the earth. ( *Man must treat Him appropriately.* )**
1. The earth and all it contains is His creation. **Gen. 1**
    - a. God owns the earth and all that it contains. ( **By virtue of creation** )  
**Psa. 50: 12-** **If I were hungry I would not tell you,**  
**For the world is Mine, and all it contains.**
    - b. God owns all men who live on the earth as well as all animals. ( **He gives life.** )  
**Psa. 24: 1-** **The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains,**  
**The world, and those who dwell in it. ( Cf. – Ezek 18:4 )**
  2. As the all-powerful creator, God / Jesus reigns as sovereign over all authorities.
    - a. **Psa. 47:8-** **God reigns over the nations, God sits on His holy throne.**
    - b. **Psa. 97:1-** **The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice;**
    - c. **Psa. 99:1-** **The Lord reigns, let the peoples tremble;**

3. God, in the person of Jesus, still rules today. ( Cf. – **Rev. 1: 5** -&- **I Tim. 6:15** )
  - a. **Read & Exegete ... Col. 1: 15-20**
  - b. Compare ... **Eph. 1: 20-21** which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, **21** far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ( **Rom 13 .. God gives gov. it's power.** )

### **TRANSITION :**

Therefore, as the sovereign ruler of the universe, God alone determines the basis upon which men have a relationship with him. Whether or not we have peace with God is determined by our willingness to accept His terms.

### **I. Failure to obey the sovereign God, puts one out of relationship with Him.**

#### **A. This is the message of Gen. 3.**

1. God gave man a law ...  
**Gen. 2: 17-** “from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat”
2. Man violated that law ... **Gen. 3: 6** ( *This was a rejection of God's rule over them.* )
3. Consequently, their relationship with God was broken. ( *Rebelled against king.* )

#### **B. Sin still separates men from God.**

1. To sin is to fall short of the glory of God.
  - a. **Rom. 3:23-** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
  - b. *Hamartano* = to miss the mark ( *Not live up to God's standard* )
2. Sin prevents man from approaching God. ( **Severs relationship - - builds wall** )  
**Isa. 59: 1-2** Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short That it cannot save;  
Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. **2** But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.
3. The separation sin causes is called spiritual death. ( **Death = separation Jas. 2:26** )
  - a. **Ezek. 18: 20-** Behold, all souls are Mine; ... The soul who sins will die.
  - b. **Rom. 6:23-** For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### **C. Relationship with Jesus, the Son of God, depends upon one's obedience.**

1. One's desire for a friendly relationship is expressed via obedience.  
**John 15:14-** You are My friends if you do what I command you.

2. Love for our Savior is expressed by obedience. (*Accepting His rule*)
  - a. **John 14: 15-** If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.
  - b. **John 14: 23-** Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

## II. Those who do not submit to the rule of God are His enemies. *Rebels, usurpers*

### A. There is no middle ground. One is either a servant of God or His enemy.

1. Jesus Himself stated this very clearly.
 

**Luke 11:23-** He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters. ( **No casual relationships** )
2. We have the same choice today as God’s people of old.
  - a. **Deut. 30: 15 ff** Before his death Moses warned the people about choices.
  - b. **Josh. 24:15** Before his death Joshua warned the people about their choices.

### B. Men are lower creatures created to serve the higher being, God.

1. We were created **FOR** God’s use.
  - a. **Col. 1: 16-** For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.
  - b. Whether nations, leaders or individuals, they all exist to serve Him.
2. Christians exist to serve God.
  - a. **Eph. 2: 10-** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
  - b. **Heb. 9: 13-14** For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, **14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God ?
3. Every servant must choose to serve his own master or to rebel.
  - a. **Luke 16: 13-** No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.
  - b. We all must choose a carrier path serving God or serving self interest.
  - c. No king will accept divided loyalties and neither will King Jesus.

**\* Failure to choose to serve God above self and all others is to reject Him as the Lord of your life. ( Cf- Luke 6:46 )**

**C. Choosing to put our own self-interest above God is rebellion against Him.**

1. Jesus instructed us to seek His interest first and trust Him to take care of us.  
**Matt. 6:33- But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**  
 Compare ... **I John 2: 15- Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**
2. The god of this world tries to distract people from following the God of Heaven.
  - a. **II Cor. 4: 3-4 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.**
  - b. Remember the garden of Eden; Satan has been consistent in his deception.
3. God wants ALL of your loyalty.
  - a. **Matt. 22:37- And He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."**
  - b. Love is not an emotion, it's commitment which results in action.
4. Those who love God serve Him.
  - a. One sentence in the Apostle's description of the Christian.  
**Rom. 12: 10-13 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; 11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.**
  - b. Serving God involves obeying Him.  
**I John 5:3- For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.**

**D. Failure to accept the authority of God to rule in your life is to rebel and it makes you God's enemy and the object of His wrath.**

1. **Remember our text : Rom. 5: 9-10**
2. **Eph. 2:3- Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. ( average Joe = wrath )**

### III. God wants to be reconciled with man, but it must be on His terms.

#### A. God must function as the sovereign ruler of the universe, not like a man.

1. God is totally just.
  - a. No king can be just if he does not enforce his laws.
  - b. Likewise, it would be unjust to punish some and excuse others.
2. Thus, God must punish all violators equally.

#### B. The penalty for sin is death ... eternal separation from God.

1. To be separated from God is to be separated from all that He gives.
  - a. **James 1: 17-** Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, ...
  - b. **I John 4: 8-** ... God is love. ( Separation from God is separation from love. )
2. The god of this world will have no kingdom because the world will be no more.
  - a. **II Pet. 3:10**
  - b. He will have neither the tendency nor the means to provide for his subjects.

#### C. In Jesus God has provided a way for us to be reconciled and live in peace with Him.

1. Jesus came to be a propitiation for our sins.
  - a. **I John 4: 10-** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
  - b. A propitiation ( *hil·as·mos* ) means “the means of appeasing.”  
From the root word “*hilaskomai*” which means “to make atonement.”
  - c. **Thus, Jesus is the means by which our sins can be atoned for.**
2. Jesus came to provide a ransom by those who have been captured by sins.  
**Mark 10: 45-** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.
3. Jesus came to pay the price to redeem those who have sold themselves into sin.  
**Titus 2:13-14** ... our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, **14** who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.
4. Once one’s penalty is paid his sins are removed and he is reconciled to God.
  - a. **Read and briefly exegete text** ... **Rom. 5: 1-11** ( Compare ... **Rom. 8: 1** )
  - b. **Read & explain ...** **II Cor. 5: 16-21**

#### Application & Invitation :

**Text : (NASV)****Romans 5: 1-10**

**1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. **3** And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; **4** and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; **5** and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

**6** For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. **7** For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. **8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. **10** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

**Colossians 1: 13-18**

**13** For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, **14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. **16** For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. **17** He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. **18** He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.