

**Romans 5:1 Questions**

**Concerning Justification**

**First Day**

1. Read Romans 5:1 and review the two lessons (lessons only—not questions) associated with Romans 4 (Weeks 5 and 6). Why would Paul begin Romans 5:1 with the word “*Therefore*”? According to verse 1, how is a person “*justified*”?

2. How does the truth you learned in Romans 4 tie in with the fact that God justified us on the basis of our own personal faith (and repentance, of course) exercised while depraved (Romans 5:1)?

3. Take some time to think about the word “*justified*.” Now try to define it.

**Second Day**

1. Read Romans 5:1. The remainder of this week you will study verses that describe the person whom God has justified. As you proceed, remember that God justifies us the instant we accept Christ as Savior. Write down what each verse says about the person whom the Father has justified: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 8:1; Ephesians 1:13; 1:4; 2:6. Meditate on these verses, and ask God to open the eyes of your heart for understanding (Ephesians 1:18).

**Third Day**

1. Read and try to memorize Romans 5:1. Study the following verses, and continue to record what results when we are justified: Colossians 3:1, 3, 13; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 2:13; Romans 8:30; Romans 6:6; Colossians 3:9-10; Ephesians 4:22-24.

**Fourth Day**

1. Read Romans 5:1. Continue to study the results of justification by reading the following verses. Write down what you find: Hebrews 9:28; 10:10; 10:14; Ephesians 5:30; Colossians 1:22; 2:10; 1Corinthians 1:30.

**Fifth Day**

1. Read Romans 5:1. Study the following verses and continue to write down what results when we are justified: 1 Corinthians 1:2, 8; 6:11; Ephesians 2:19; Philippians 3:20; Colossians 2:12; 3:12.

**Sixth Day**

1. Read Romans 5:1. Two more verses, 1John 5:20 and Jude 1, and we are finished. Study them and write down what you learn about the person who is justified.

2. How has this week's lesson encouraged you? Do you have trouble accepting the fact that everything you studied for the past five days happened at the point of justification? If so, why?

## Romans 5:1 Lesson

*Justification by Faith*

Are you ready to consider a utterly fascinating dimension of the Christian life? In this section, we will discover that Jesus did more than get us out of hell and into heaven. His obedience, coupled with the faith and repentance God requires from the depraved, is what caused the Father to justify us! He made us not guilty by saving us through His Son. He did it in an instant of time, the instant we, while lost and depraved, realized our need for a Savior, repented of our sins, and asked Jesus Christ into our hearts through faith. This news is more than good! It is life!

Justification was defined earlier as “just as if I never sinned or ever will sin again.” God, in a moment’s time, ushered us out of a state of condemnation (Ephesians 2:1-3) and made us righteous (right) before Him. He did it on the basis of our own personal repentance and faith exercised while we were depraved! Paul speaks of this astounding transformation in Romans 5:1:

*Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)*

At the outset, consider a significant point regarding the phrase, “*having been justified by faith.*” Paul, by no stretch of the imagination, is teaching that “*faith*” saves. “*Faith*” has never saved

**G**od, in a moment’s time, ushered us out of a state of condemnation and made us righteous (right) before Him.

anyone. God does the saving. Man does the believing. Thus, “*faith,*” exercised by the depraved, cannot be classified as a work—as verified by previous lessons. This truth will be confirmed to a greater degree as we continue, so prepare yourself. We will be digging extremely deep.

Notice that the first word in Romans 5 is “*Therefore.*” Paul makes use of this term because it took the first four chapters of this epistle to prove that God bestows righteousness upon those who repent and believe while depraved. Consequently, we were “*justified*” by God as a result of exercising faith prior to being born again! Yes, God saves; man believes. Man in his lost (depraved) state must believe, however, before God will save. We also studied last week that “...it [the salvation that comes through God alone] is by faith, that it might be in accordance with grace...” (Romans 4:16). Thus, justification is available to man solely as a result of God’s grace.

I view justification in this manner:

Several years ago, in the midst of my depravity, I saw my need for a Savior (repented, in other words) and exercised personal faith. I did this by looking to heaven and saying, “God help, I need a Savior.” God then did all the rest. Much more occurred than initially meets the eye, so let me attempt to explain by offering the following illustration:

When I gave my life to Christ (when I exercised personal repentance and faith while depraved), God, seated in heaven behind His huge gold desk, took His huge gold gavel (no desk or gavel are mentioned in Scripture—again, this is an illustration), stood up behind His desk, raised up on His tip-toes, and with all the force that He could muster through that right arm of power, struck that huge, gold, glistening desk. As a result of this act, all heaven shook—even the angels took notice—and every eye in the heavenly places gazed at the Creator. As He prepared to speak, they could not help but notice the love and compassion that characterized His stature. As they gazed more intently, they could see tears of

joy rushing down those cheeks from which the glory of His Majesty was manifested. Then, when everything in heaven had settled, the Creator pointed at me. Here is where our illustration ends and Scriptural reality kicks in, although some of what is stated above may very well have occurred:

With great boldness and authority, and yet with great joy, my God said this about me: “You are holy, perfect, redeemed, complete, blameless, accepted, glorified, a brother of Christ, not condemned, a saint, a son, forgiven, and I take you as my very own!”

Wow! Can you believe that the Father did all of that (and more) in an instant of time? This entire transformation occurred at the point of justification, subsequent to our exercising repentance and faith while depraved. God did it all through His grace!

Let’s observe a few New Testament verses that confirm what has been stated regarding justification. The verse reference is listed on the left. What God says about us in each verse is listed on the right. Keep in mind that everything addressed here happened in an instant, at the point of justification. Turn the page and bask in the greatness of what you find.