

The Divine Exchange - Romans 5:1-5 Our Benefits Package Part 1

Good morning - Today we are beginning a short series - entitled the Divine Exchange.

A) If you are a garage sale or thrift store person - don't you love it - score a great deal?

B) You find a treasure that someone is selling for a few dollars.

C) Rick Norsigian from Fresno Calif. Knows what that is like

Cc) Rick Paid \$45 dollars at a garage sale- for a box of **glass photograph negatives**

1) They turned out to be the lost works of **Ansel Adams**

D) The most revered American landscape photographer — **worth several million dollars**

E) I'd say that was a great exchange.

Andy Fields— paid \$5.00 for five sketches at a Las Vegas garage sale. —

A) They ended up being the childhood works of another revered artist - Andy Warhol

B) Worth 2 million dollars - **ONCE AGAIN – I WOULD SAY – GREAT EXCHANGE!!!!**

1) \$5- in \$2 million dollars

A guy trades in a piece of paper – with numbers on it He paid a dollar for – Lottery – for millions

A) Great exchange. – Not an advocate of buying lottery tickets – but for the winner – great exchange

B) Teams gives up a **washed up player** for draft pick that turns out to be an All star –

1) A GREAT EXCHANGE

The greatest exchange ever is what Jesus did for us at Calvary and what we get as a result when we believe!

A) See when come into this relationship - with a major deficit - Put our faith in Jesus

B) We end up incredibly blessed!

C) Trade all that we are not for all that He is - that is a great exchange!

Today in Romans Ch.5 - we are going to begin to break down our Benefits package in Christ.

A) Being a part of Jesus - by Faith in his finished work at Calvary - Resurrection 3 days later

B) There was a young man who graduated from The esteemed MIT-- with a degree in Engineering
1) So he was looking for his first job in the market.

C) He found a company was willing to interview him.

So at the interview, the HR official said, what kind of a salary are you looking for as a starting salary?

A) And the engineer said oh, \$300,000 a year, depending on the benefits package.

B) The HR official cracked a slight smirk his face and followed with what would you say to this package?

C) Five weeks paid vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental.

D) The company will match retirement funds up to 50% of your salary.

1) And a leased car every two years, say, a red Corvette.

Well the young engineer sat up straight and said, wow, are you kidding?

A) And HR official said, of course I am kidding

B) But you started it first with that ridiculous starting salary request.

C) Guys listen we have a Benefits package in Jesus that is NO JOKE!

D) A Benefits package that we do nothing to earn - it is all based on what Jesus did for us.

E) Guys listen to this incredible benefits package we have in Christ. - Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
² through whom also we have access by faith into this

grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Here is our benefits package in Christ.

- We have been proclaimed righteous in Christ
- We have peace with God.
- We have the privilege of access to God.
- We have a preview of our future.
- We have purpose in our pain and suffering.
- We have perfect love poured into us.

And that is just the start - it only grows as we get further into Romans 6, 7, 8 -

A) Focus over the next few weeks

B) Today because of communion and baptism we are only doing to look at the first two items on this list.

C) Coming weeks - build upon it - See what you have in Jesus

1) Don't know Jesus - this can be yours today - by simply putting your faith in Jesus - Salvation

Benefit #1

A) We have been Proclaimed righteous in Christ
Therefore, having been justified by faith,

B) Justified = declared righteous.

C) The Bible declares that Satan the devil is the accuser of the brethren.

1) Picture a court room - he is the prosecuting attorney.

D) He has an air tight case against us - He takes God's law - 10 commandments

You shall have no other gods before me.

A) Shows the video clips of every time in my life that loved something or someone more than God

B) Honor your father and mother - He shows the video clips all those times in JR. High / HS

1) Disrespectful to my parents

C) Thou shalt not steal - Shows the times - I cut corners at work - took something - candy

D) Thou shalt not bear false witness - not lie -

1) Shows all the times I did that - even when I thought it was just a white lie

E) Thou shalt not Covet - want something that belong to someone else - Jealousy - even

1) Shows all that! - takes hours there is so much!!!

The more he talks - the more I sink down into my seat - air tight case against me.

A) I know the penalty for breaking those laws is death.

B) But the Bible also tells us that Jesus is our Advocate - our defense attorney.

C) Jesus stands up and says - Judge all of that is true about Rob - guilty as sin - deserves to die!

1) Man I think I need a NEW LAWYER - but then he says - remind you - I already paid the price / cross

D) I already died in his place! Took the penalty! So we can try him for what I already paid for

1) Double Jeopardy

E) The Judge says - you are right - case dismissed!

But get this: Judge doesn't pardon me of my sin and wrongs - Pardon - means guilty but given a break

A) The Judge declares me Justified, - declared righteous

B) Or to put it another way: Justification= just as if you never sinned.

C) That is how the Father sees us in Christ!

1) Covered in his righteousness

The A great exchange is all about identification:

A) We have been brought out of Adam and placed us into Christ!

Therefore, just as through one man, sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned. Romans 5:12

The story of the beginning: Adam sinned -

A)The whole human race - affected with S.I.N. positive

B)Ingrained in us - Don't have to teach kids how to lie - comes naturally - Amanda - blame not home

C)Don't have to teach them how to be selfish - grand kids - fight don't want to share -
1)One of the first words little kids learn is MINE!!!

You don't have to teach them how to be disrespectful

A)CHRISTMAS DAY - PJ's - Lennon doesn't like PJ's / Josiah looking for something else - Trash

B)That behavior comes natural sin nature.
1)Sin Positive

C)We are not sinners because we sin - we sin because we are sinners - we picked it up from Adam

In the same way we pick up Physical traits from our parents

A)Dad's nose - thankful none of my kids especially my girls got it

B)Hair color, eye color, other physical features
1)Now my youngest daughter is blond hair and blue eyes - doesn't look like us - great grandma

C)My two oldest kids used to tease her that she was adopted or switched at the hospital
1)She actually got blond hair and blue eyes from her great grandma - my almond shaped eyes / Denise face

D)Sometimes we even pick up personality traits from our parents

Well we were infected - Sin gene - Sin Positive - Sin nature from Adam

A)We have been given this propensity to sin from him -

B)With that propensity to sin comes the death penalty. - We sinned - we are guilty.

C)We are declared righteous in God's eyes by Faith - by simply believing in Jesus

1)He died in my place - He rose to give me life

D)The moment we embrace Jesus - That becomes our new status

For God made Jesus who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

To Put it another way: Jesus who had no sin in him, became sin filled- so that we who were full of sin could be made SIN FREE!

E)That for us is a Great exchange.

So Benefit #1 in your benefit Package - You have been proclaimed righteous in Christ

A)Benefit #2 You have Peace with God! -

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

This is the first immediate effect of justification. Peace with God, meaning the war is over.

A)The war w/ God is over. We were at odds w/ God.

B)We didn't like his rules - we broke his laws - we were separated from him because of our sin.

C)Romans 5:10 **Enemies of God** - that was our default position.

D)Jesus came to bring peace between Man and God - Bridge the gap

Now an Unbeliever might say I don't know what you are talking about -

A)I feel peaceful - I am good with God.

B)Problem is God is not good with you - you have sinned -

1)You have broken his laws - created a wedge.

C)God being a just judge - can't just wink at sin - let you off the hook - feeling generous today.

1)Stolen from - worse yet - killed a loved one - you want justice

So the fact that you feel peaceful like you are ok - is like somebody sitting on a lounge chair,

A)Sipping champagne on the deck of the Titanic.

B)Feels really good now, but that boat is going down.

1)You might feel peaceful but it is a temporary illusion only. You are not at peace with God.

Another example: if a man commits a crime in the United States and flees the country.

A)He might feel great but he's not at peace with our country.

B)And you can prove that because if he tries to come back in our country he's going to get what?

1)Arrested and put in jail.

C)Be truthful- if you have ever read the story of anyone who lived as a fugitive - no peace

1)Always looking over the shoulder wondering - when they are going to get caught.

Here is the thing: The cross made peace possible.

A)Isaiah the prophet wrote these words about Jesus and his crucifixion

He was pierced because of our rebellion, crushed because of our iniquities; punishment for our peace was on him. Isaiah 53:5 CSB

B)When you said yes to Jesus, you ran up the white flag of surrender.

1)And you have peace with God

C)Peace with God should generate the peace of God,

D)Once you fully realize, hey, there's nothing standing in the way,

1)there's no roadblock between God and I,

E)that should make you feel really good. Make you feel peaceful.

Peace with God is a fact, it is Judicial -

A)The peace of God is a feeling it is experiential

You will keep *him* in perfect peace,

Whose mind is stayed on You,

Because he trusts in You. Isaiah 26:3

B)It's interesting that of all the titles that Jesus bears in Scripture, He is called the Prince of Peace.

C)He's not called the Prince of Joy, the Prince of Hope, the Prince of Love,

1)though He certainly could be ascribed all of those titles.

D)He is called the Prince of Peace because primarily He came to make peace between mankind and God.

1)**Jesus, as Savior, brings peace with God. Jesus as Lord brings the peace of God.**

Paul sums this up in V.15-18 NLT

¹⁵ But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ.

Grace: Undeserved Favor

A)We deserved judgment - death - damnation

B)We were given grace - Favor with God - because of our connection to Jesus -

¹⁶ And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. ¹⁷ For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many.

Bondage to that sin nature- hard to change that behavior - ingrained in us.

But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will **live in triumph** over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

The victory of JESUS over death - and sin - means that we can live in victory too. - No longer have to be bond and controlled by passions and lust

¹⁸ Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone.

This is the Divine exchange:

A)It is all about connection

Aa)We are brought out of Adam and we are placed in Christ.

B) In Adam we inherited a sin nature, condemnation a death sentence, bondage to passions and lust

God's right hand in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 1:19 NLT

C) In Christ we inherit forgiveness, righteousness, Joy, freedom and power to live differently

D) We go from being declared guilty because of our sin to being declared righteous in Jesus

E) We go from being at War with God - to being at peace with God

1) Being his enemies to being his family

To wrap this up - I want us to look at 2 passages that are connected to our new Status in Christ.

A) One connects us to communion - the other to Baptism

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Galatians 2:20

B) Crucified with Christ -

Now in Chapter 6 Paul gives an analogy that connects with what is going to happen here today.

V.3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Baptism is symbolic of a death and a Resurrection

A) When Jesus died - our sin nature died with him

B) When he rose - we rose - we get to now walk in that newness of life.

¹⁹ I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power ²⁰ that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at