

6-9-2024 Sunday Sermon Message
Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16
Text: Romans 5:1-11

Title: **Do you live in the hope of glory, rejoicing in God?**

Christians who have been born again by faith in the gospel of Christ, through His blood all sins are removed and justified, by receiving the Holy Spirit, have finally received the tremendous grace of having peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the so-called Age of Law, before Christ died for our sins and buried and resurrected the third day according to the scriptures, the sins were forgiven but the sins in the conscience could not be removed and only the body was cleansed.

The Israelites who lived in the Age of Law were nationally punished by God. When they sinned against God, they could not make peace with God. The prophet Isaiah testified that they were cut off from fellowship with God because of their sins:

"Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:² But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.³ For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.⁴ None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.⁵ They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper.⁶ Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands.

⁷ Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths.⁸ The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace."(Isaiah 59:1-8)

They had received the law from God, and they all swore before Moses and God that they would keep the law that they could not keep, so they do not realize it to this day. God gave them the law so that they could realize that they were sinners who could not keep the law, and that no one could be saved unless with the blood of Christ and not the blood of the beast, but they did not realize that the blood of Christ was shed for them, even though they saw the blood shed by him by hanging him on the cross.

But when Christ returns and stands before them, when they finally realize that the Jesus they had pierced was their God, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem repent (Zechariah 12:10), the fountain shall be opened to the house of David and to the inhabitant of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. (Zechariah 13:1).

The Apostle Paul testified of the day when Israel would be saved as a nation:

"²⁵ For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.²⁶ And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:²⁷ For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins." (Romans 11:25-27)

Therefore, Christians should realize that the fact that all sins were removed by grace and they are in peace with God through faith in Christ is the great grace when we consider the suffering that the Israelites suffered under the Law. Therefore, the Apostle Paul said that we should always not forget this grace, but always abide in this grace and come to God with firm faith in the salvation achieved through the blood of Christ. Not only that, but he also testified that he rejoiced in the hope of God's glory.

He testified of the hope of God's glory in his letter to Titus:

“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;¹⁴ Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”(Titus 2:13-14)

The Apostle Paul testified that Christians who believe in Christ Jesus and enter the kingdom of God and live in righteousness, peace, and joy shall overcome the world by enjoying the peace that God gives them inwardly, even though they live in a sinful world:

“And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;⁴ And patience, experience; and experience, hope:⁵ And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us....But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”(Romans 5:3-5,8)

The Apostle Paul also testified to Christians who believe in Christ and live in the kingdom of God through the Holy Spirit and live a life of

peace with God that they shall be raptured and not enter into the Great Tribulation:

“⁹ Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.¹⁰ For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life....¹⁰ And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.”(Thessalonians 1:10)

The Apostle Paul testified that Christians have nothing to rejoice in living in a sinful world, but there is only joy:

“And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.”(Romans 5:11)

The Apostle Paul testified of how he lived a life of rejoicing in God:

“Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.”(II Corinthians 12:10)

Amen! Hallelujah!