

What Course Shall We Take?

Romans 5.9-21

In a very real sense, in the spiritual realm there are only two options available for humanity. The first choice is spiritual life. The second choice is spiritual death. All people everywhere could be placed in one of these two categories. They are either spiritually alive or spiritually dead. The good news is that Jesus Christ suffered death, so we could enjoy life.

The Benefits of the Salvation Given by Christ

*“Since we have now been **justified** by his blood, how much more shall we be **saved** from God's wrath through him! For if, when we were God's enemies, we were **reconciled** to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been **reconciled**, shall we be **saved** through his life! Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received **reconciliation**.”* Romans 5.9-11

There are some questions we should ask when we discuss the death of Christ.

- Why did Christ give his life for us?
- When did Christ give his life for us?
- How did Christ give his life for us?

It is important that we understand that there are three stages of salvation.

1. The first is **justification**.
2. The second is **sanctification**.
3. The third is **glorification**.

This Salvation Comes by Grace, but not Without some Problems

*“Therefore, just as **sin entered the world** through one man, and death through sin, and in this way **death came to all men**, because all sinned – for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.”* Romans 5.12-14

However, There is a Solution

*“But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive **God's abundant provision of grace** and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.*

*Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. The law was added so that the trespass might increase. **But where sin increased, grace increased all the more**, so that, just as sin reigned in death, **so also grace might reign** through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* Romans 5.15-21

Boice, James Montgomery. *Romans: Justification by Faith, Vol. 1*. Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, 1991.

Hoke, J. David. Pastor, New Horizons Community Church, 2303 Evesham Rd. Voorhees, NJ. 08043.

Hughes, Robert B. and Laney, J. Carl. *Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary*. Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 2001.

Stott, John. *Romans: God's Good News for the World*. InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 1994.