

Cornerstone Bible Church

The Greatest Gift

(Romans 5:5)

Survey of Romans part 15

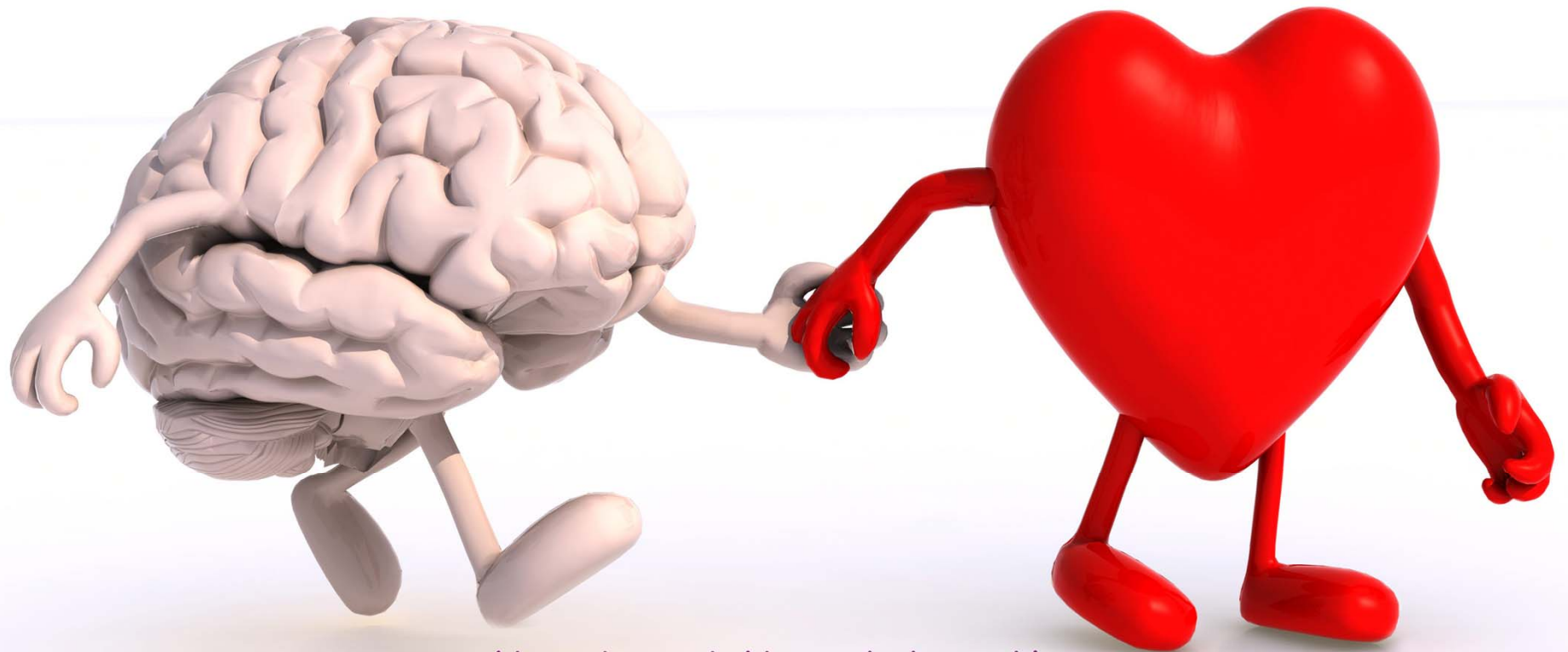
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Introduction:

“The short circuit.”

The Daily Battle



Head and Heart together

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Text:

Romans 5:1-5 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,²through 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. ³And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴and 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.**

I – THE PREMISE:

“Therefore having been justified by faith.”

- Faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to obtain justification before God apart from the Law.
- **Please be careful** with the celebrity who teaches that holiness is necessary for our final salvation.
- Yes “*without holiness no one will see the Lord*”, but sanctification is a result of the gospel.
- Our willful and arduous fight against sin IS A GOSPEL GRACE! Phil 2:12-13
- $S = G + E$ (heresy) \rightarrow $G \cdot S \ \& \ E$ (Romans 6,7 & 8)
- Sanctification is the fruit of Jesus’ finished work and the consequence of having been justified by faith.

II – THE RESULTS: Luther “the works of faith”

- a) **Peace**: The result is permanent and immovable: “we have peace with God”.
 - b) **Assurance**: We have already obtained our introduction into this grace (perfect tense). This will always be our condition.
 - c) **Holy boasting**: We BOAST IN HOPE, that we will see, taste and partake of, the Glory of God
 - d) **We also exult in tribulations**: the benefits of tribulations.
- => **Endurance**: Standing under the weight.
- => **Proven character**: An approved or tested character
- => **Hope**: We hate afflictions, but they are God’s instrument to breed a HOPE that will not let us down.

===WE STOPPED HERE LAST WEEK=====

e) Love: 5b) because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

I - Hope does not disappoint

a) It is a certain hope that will not let us down

b) The reason: the love of God lavishly poured in our hearts εκκεχυται

The word means to pour out, shed, spill or gush out.

It is a **passive voice**. This is extremely important. It is not something we gain, or muster up, but **it is given to us**.

e) Love: 5b) because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

I - Hope does not disappoint

- Illustration: “I may stop loving your mother, but you I will never stop loving you, because you are my son.”
- If an unrighteous father said that to a 7 year-old boy. How much more will your perfect Heavenly Father not say it to you, who believe in Christ?
- The Love of God is not just to quote John 3:16 to unbelievers. **The love of God has been lavishly spilled in our hearts.**
- You did not earn it, therefore you cannot maintain it and consequently, **YOU CANNOT LOSE IT!**

e) Love: 5b) because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

I - Hope does not disappoint

- One of our greatest holes as sinners is precisely this need for validation, of being accepted and loved.

- Some of us carry severe psychological dysfunctions because we did not experience that love and acceptance at home. (A friend who loves from inside a shell to avoid getting hurt.)

- **The Gospel is meant to fix that.** In Christ and because of Christ, we are unconditionally and lavishly loved by God. “Unconditionally” to us, Christ is the condition!

e) Love: 5b) because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

I - Hope does not disappoint.

- If you have a scrupulous nature, you struggle with the thought: How can God love me?
- I know my sins and shortcomings. This leads to *lack of assurance* and to its twin sister, *hopelessness*.
- You read a Puritan out of context or hear a famous preacher and you conclude: I will be among those who will be shown a door to hell, right at the gates of heaven (Bunyan).
- Here comes the mind-boggling effect of the Gospel. The love of God had been lavishly poured within our hearts ***THROUGH the Holy Spirit who has been GIVEN to us.***

II - THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVEN TO US.

- I will not digress into Pneumatology, but we cannot ponder enough on this truth.

- Jesus said, **“it is good that I go away, because I did not, the Holy Spirit would not come.”** John 16:7

- This sounds incredible! Do we believe it?

- Maybe not... or not quite!

1. The Omniscient, Omnipresent, Almighty, All Wise, All Just, All Holy, Merciful, Patient, Loving, Holy Spirit of God, was **GIVEN TO US** when we believed.

II - THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVEN TO US.

2. The Holy Spirit is not just with us, and He is and can be because He is omnipresent (cf Psalm 139)

...but **the Spirit is IN us**. 1 Corinthians 6:19

3. The implications of this are **mind boggling**.

a) When we gather as a church, we become the Temple and Dwelling of God by the Spirit 2 Corinthians 3:16

b) When we pray, the Spirit of God aids us in our pleading, interceding for us. Romans 8:26

c) When we are puzzled, confused and disoriented, the Spirit of God guides us Romans 8:14

II - THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVEN TO US.

- d) The Spirit is God's agent to carve us into the image of Christ 2 Corinthians 3:18

- e) The Spirit illuminates our understanding to comprehend the mind and will of God in the Scriptures
1 Corinthians 2:11-14

- THERE IS NO GREATER GIFT TO THE BELIEVER, THAN THE HOLY SPIRIT

- We have let Pentecostals and Charismatics kidnap the reality and dynamics of LIVING in the Spirit.

III – THERE IS NO GREATER GIFT TO THE BELIEVER.

1. The Spirit who arranged the post creation chaos, is in us.
2. The Spirit who endowed Bezalel and Oholiab to build and adorn the tabernacle, is in us
3. The Spirit who adorned the heavens, is in us
4. The Spirit who spoke to the prophets, is in us
5. The Spirit who inspired the Scriptures, is in us
6. The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, is in us
7. The Spirit who knows even the deepest things of God, is in us
8. The Spirit through whom Jesus was offered, is in us

III – THERE IS NO GREATER GIFT TO THE BELIEVER.

- ❑ The Spirit of God has been given to us as the indelible, irrevocable and immutable evidence that we will receive God's inheritance. Ephesians 1:13
- ❑ Jesus obeyed in life, what we could not, and his obedience was accounted to us.
- ❑ Jesus paid in death, the debt we owed, and his payment was credited to us.
- ❑ Because of Jesus, God and us are inseparable, in the Holy Spirit. **“What shall separate us from the love of Christ?”**

III – THERE IS NO GREATER GIFT TO THE BELIEVER.

- ☐ **Luke 11:11** Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? ¹²Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? ¹³If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”**

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