

Romans

How can I stand tall when I fall short? (5:1-11)

- 1. Resist a sensate spirituality. Justification by faith is a learned, objective, fact not a subjective feeling. (5:1-2)**

1 Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through 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.**

Positional truth:

- It is **non-experiential** - it consists of facts about us that may not be felt by us.
- It is **not progressive** - it is complete and cannot be improved upon.
- It must be **learned** through teaching - it is known through the revelation of Scripture.
- It is acknowledged through **faith** - it is accepted only as we believe what the Bible says.
- It is **not related to human merit.**

The following chart gives a comparison of our position in Christ and our experience as Christians.

Our position in Christ	Our experience in Christ
regeneration	sanctification
sealing with the Spirit	Assurance of salvation
indwelling of the Spirit	filling with the Spirit
justification	freedom from condemnation
member of the body of Christ	fellowship with believers

Children of God	Disciples of Christ
static	dynamic
complete and perfect	incomplete and imperfect

2. Resist a circumstantial spirituality. My circumstances may not suggest that I am justified by faith. (5:3-5)

3 And not only this, but we also **exult in our tribulations**, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; 4 and 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.

Rom.8:17 “and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we **suffer** with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.”

II Cor.1:5-7 “For just as the **sufferings** of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ. But if we are **afflicted**, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for you comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same **sufferings** which we also **suffer**; and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our **sufferings**, so also you are shares of our comfort.”

Phil.3:10 “that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His **sufferings**, being conformed to His death;”

I Pet.4:13 “but to the degree that you share the **sufferings** of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.”

I Pet.5:1 “Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the **sufferings** of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed,”

3. Resist a score-keeping spirituality. Justification by faith assures us that we will not see the wrath of God. (5:6-11)

6 For while we were still **helpless**, at the right time Christ died for the **ungodly**. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet **sinner**s, Christ died for us.

Our condition when justified:

“helpless” – **unable to change our situation.**

“ungodly” – **out of harmony with God.**

“sinner

s” – **acting against God’s will.**

“enemies” – **hostile opponents.**

9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath {of God} through Him.

How are we saved from the wrath of God?

**Not through our faithfulness
But “through Him” (Christ)**

Jn.5:24 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

Rom.8:1-4 “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the laws of sin and of death. For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did; sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

10 For if while we were **enemies**, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. 11 And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

***Reconciliation is the restoration of peace
between man and God by the removal of all
barriers.***

II Cor.5:18-21 “All this is from God, who **reconciled** us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**, that God was **reconciling** the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them, and He has committed to us the word of **reconciliation**. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be **reconciled** to God. He made Him who knew no sin to become sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Col.1:21-22 “Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But

now he has **reconciled** you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation."