

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
IHOP BIBLE STUDY  
# 6 Romans 5: 1 - 11, "Peace and Joy" – with comments

The purpose of the Letter to the Romans is to develop a "Model for Living the Awakened/Transformed Life." **Today's study is the 6th of 27 lessons.**

According to our Study Chart we are studying the 2<sup>nd</sup> section of our chart called "Awaken to The Work of God." Next week will move into a new area of the Roman's Chart concerning the Law of Judgment and Grace.

**Contextual Statement**

According to the Roman's Chart, this is a second session concerning the Law of Judgment and Righteousness. The function of Judgment and Grace is to awaken us to the work of God. Remember, the work of God is to re-awaken us to our created essence to be human/humane, and to awaken us to our human purpose of living surrendered to God. Consequently, our gratitude becomes a constant praising of God.

**Read the assignment in one reading.**

1. Vs. 1: How is "peace" in our lives the result of "justification through faith?"

**WS:** One IHOPer suggested this kind of peace is experienced as "shalom" that he associated with the word wholeness. Others suggested "tranquility," "enlightenment," and "a warmness." My definition is the sense of deep satisfaction.

2. Vs. 2: How is "the glory of God" our hope?

**WS:** **See image.** Glorification is associated with the experience of fulfillment in At-One-Ment.

3. Vss. 3 – 5: Explain what is going on here.

**WS:**

**Vss. 3 -- 5:** The progression from suffering to hope paints for us a picture of the person who understands that life victimizes us, yet we have a choice either to be victims or victors. This is the significance of the phrase, "God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit."

**Vs. 5:** The phrase "into our hearts" can be associated with our Awakening. This is a Gut Trip Analysis.

**Vs. 5b:** The Holy Spirit always is a Spiritual Alarm Clock to spiritually awaken us. We hear this spiritual alarm clock go off when we experience a Christ Event that awakens us from spiritual slumber.

4. Vss. 6 – 8: Is it true we are "ungodly" and "powerless." Explain.

**WS:**

**Vs. 6a:** "Powerless" is associated with living in hopelessness.

**Vs. 6b:** "Ungodly" is associated with being un-awakened.

**How is the sacrifice of Christ a demonstration of God's love?**

**Vs. 8a:** The "demonstration" is associated with the Christ Event that awakens us. John Wesley said that the human situation is that we are spiritually asleep. The human predicament is that we can not awaken ourselves, but we are dependent on others (the church) to awaken us. The experience of spiritual awakening is a Christ Event. It is an event because it often comes to us in a moment of accountability. During this experience our selfhood is called into question, and we are confronted with the necessity of dying to what we have been and of accepting what we can be. This is the significance of death and resurrection. It is a kind of death.

**Vs. 7 and 8b:** This Christ Event is an un-deserved and un-merited gift to us. It is not something we earn or for which we can prepare ourselves. When it comes to us we have a decision to make to accept it or to deny it.

**5. Vs. 9: Using Gut Trip Analysis, identify the words "justified by his blood," and "saved from God's wrath."**

**WS:** "Justified by his blood." This phrase points to the ultimate demonstration through which we are awakened (justified). Also, it is a demonstration of the kind of love that sponsors the demonstration (God's agape love). John Wesley, in his "Notes on Romans" observes that the use of the term "blood" is used here as an analogy. (*John Wesley's Notes on Romans: pp. 30, 31.*)

"Saved from God's wrath." From the point-of-view of Gut Trip Analysis, this phrase finds that "wrath" is a difficult word for us today. From our perspective, wrath is associated with God's love. God never punishes us. Our punishment—and reward—is built into the decisions we make. This is supported by the axiom 'The reward for the deed is found in the deed itself.'

Often, as we experience being awakened from in-human or un-human activities, the accountability comes to us a meanness. Being awakened to our denial can be traumatic. Yet, being restored to humane living truly makes us fully human in a wholesome manner.

**6. Vs. 10: "God's enemies?" Explain Paul's thinking here.**

**WS:** This is a curious phrase Paul uses to point up the human experience of living the antithesis of the humane life. As we demonstrate in-human (i.e., racism) or un-human (i.e., self-depreciation) activities we live as "God's enemies."

**What is our experience of "being reconciled?" (Use Gut Trip Analysis.)**

**WS:** *See image.*

The experience of reconciliation is that of living "at home" in the spiritual dimension of our human experience. This is an Awakened experience. An Un-Awakened experience is living "on vacation," that is living out of place, discomfited.

**7. Vs. 11: What is Paul's rational for our rejoicing because of our Lord Jesus Christ, "through whom we have now received reconciliation?" Why is this true, and how do we experience it personally?**

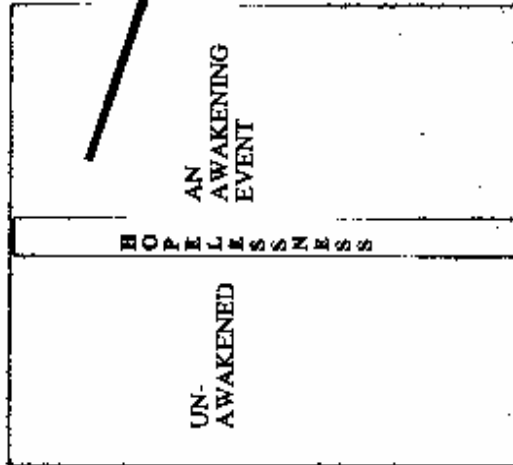
**WS:** When I'm awakened, I feel deeply satisfied. Also, those with whom I associate experience our relationship in the same way.

**Bob Winters:** I know Jesus has reconciled me to himself but to the father because He as said he would do so through the cross and I believe him. I know this personally because I see his hand of mercy in the events of my life and feel the confirmation in my spirit. I do not always feel this confirmation but that is where faith or trust come in

**Alright folks, talk to me.**



**THE GOOD NEWS!**



ALL IS GOOD

PAST FORGOTTEN

FUTURE IS OPEN

TODAY IS A GIFT

JOINED TO CHRIST BY

**Justification**  
Experienced as  
awakening to AT-ONE-  
MENT.

**Sanctification**  
Experienced as living in  
AT-ONE-MENT.

**Glorification**  
Experienced as  
fulfillment in AT-ONE-  
MENT.

