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Romans five verse 1. Therefore having been justified by faith. We have peace with god through. Our lord jesus christ. So, for the reading of god's inspired and to inherent word, A week ago about this time. We considered up through. The word god, therefore having been justified by faith. We have peace with god.

And how justification isn't just a legal status, it hasn't merely a legal status. Where the lord declares us righteous before him righteous in his court? And the Great blessing. That. That it is to. Be able to know that you are in a right standing with god. Um, but it's not just a status, it is And experience.

It is a state. It is a condition. And the first part of that condition is that, it's a condition of peace with god. As we heard last week, and How wonderful it is. Uh, to have peace. With god. And part of, How wonderful it is to have peace with god is not just What the condition is?

Uh, the condition of peace. But in whom we are at peace with god. And we have peace with god through our lord, jesus christ. And if you remember to last week, The the last consideration about the piece that we have a god, was that it is an unassailable piece.

It is a piece that can't be lost. It is a piece that cannot be taken away. It is a piece that no enemy Uh, can break up. And, And the greatness of that piece is precisely due to in whom we have that peace. We have peace with god through our lord jesus christ.

Now, this is wonderful. Not only because it means the piece is great, but it reminds us Of the great cost at which it was purchased the preciousness then of the peace. There are some things in your house's children that you perhaps Uh, do not worry too much about knocking over.

There are other things that perhaps in a rare moment, hopefully, not too rare. Moment of wisdom and judiciousness if you are tearing through the house at A full run or if you and another sibling are tussling and you get close to Something that is expensive. Uh, you decide that you are going to be a little bit more careful.

That's expensive. It's precious. It's valuable well, how wonderful and expensively bought is our piece with god. That was purchased at, The cost of god, the sun. Becoming a man. In order to be our peace in order to obtain it and not only becoming a man in order to do so.

Uh, but submitting himself to death. Having taken the form of a slave being found in appearances. A man submitting himself to death and that the death of the cross and those words in Philippians 2 are very closely connected. To this peace with god through our lord jesus christ. Because it was on account of his having done that.

That Philippians 2, says that for this reason, god has given him. The name that is above every other name. That every knee bows and every tongue confesses, not only an earth but in heaven. That jesus christ. Is lord. And so it is a great comfort, a great encouragement. It should make us wonder with awe and joy, and adoration and worship.

To know. Through whom this peace has been attained and how he has obtained it. In the first place then. Hopefully, as obvious to you but it is not obvious to many in practice That there is only one Jesus through whom we can have peace with God. Therefore we having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus.

Christ. In other words, Although, there are many who have an idea about Jesus. This. Um, this idea that Perhaps. Not very reverently. Called, but the idea itself is not so reverently formed. Jesus, the cosmic boyfriend. Uh, Jesus. The one. Who has warm mushy feelings about you so that you may have warm mushy feelings about him.

And walking with him is really an exercise in maintaining the feelings. Uh, or obtaining these peak feelings on? Particular dates with Jesus. Sadly, I was exposed to this sort of a view of Jesus. Of Jesus one that did not view him much at all as Lord and did not know.

Much of what it meant that he is Christ. The the Lords anointed the forever King, the great high priest, the prophet like Moses, but greater than Moses. Um, Christ. We We basically thought of justice, sort of his last name. And, And we would, I have. Different things we did as a church and then especially as a youth group.

In order to increase peak feeling. Uh, and This is not. That Jesus through whom we have peace with God as it and he wonder that those who have that sort of an idea about Jesus and that sort of an interaction with him, find it very difficult. To maintain a sense of peace with God.

Because the glorious second person of Of the Godhead is not the one who has secured the peace and is securing them in the peace. And so, It is important to get our doctrine about Jesus Christ, correct. This is something we saw recently as we were in first Timothy 3 and especially thinking about deacons You remember?

The deacon was To hold with a clear conscience, the mystery Of the faith, the mystery of the gospel. And one of the reasons at the conclusion of the deacon section there, In verse 13, was because the one who serves. Well, in that office has a great testimony and then that flows immediately into verses 14 through 16 of first Timothy 3.

Where the church is the pillar and buttress of the truth, where else is the world going to get the truth? If the church does not have the truth and it is often the case. That those who are outsiders and even those in the church who are less, spiritually-minded are very interested in what's happening with the money.

And very interested in. How how it's being collected and how it's being distributed. And A deacon who serves well, in those ways gets opportunities that even a minister or an elder might not. And we see this in the new testament, it was Steven. And with Philip who become great evangelists in fact, Philip is called Philip the evangelist Later on, but two of of those.

First men who were ordained to the diaconate. And what is the mystery of the faith? What is the great faithful saying? At the end of that chapter 1 Timothy 3 that Jesus As God manifested in the flesh. And that he was justified in the spirit. And that he was seen by messengers by angels, those who would preach, you know, Perhaps remember the use of the word angel to mean preacher in the In the letters, to the churches in Asia, at the beginning of revelation, and that he is.

From glory causing himself to be preached among the nations and believed on in the cosmos which demonstrates that he has been raised up in glory. It's sound doctrine about Jesus Christ. And one of the reasons why this sound doctrine about Jesus is necessary, Is because only the real Jesus.

Can give you real. Peace with god. However, much a man may be able to assure himself that he has peace with god. Now, With his ideas about jesus that are different. Then the first Timothy 3:16 jesus. The jesus, who is summarized here in our passage as our lord? Jesus christ.

However, much. He may convince himself that he has peace with god. It will not stand when he stands. Before the living god. As one of my seminary professors, Used to say when he was teaching us or reminding us about a point of christology, if we We're getting something wrong.

About the doctrine of who christ is or the doctrine of the trinity. There are tens of thousands of men named jesus in mexico. And not one of them. Can save you from your sins. And so it is necessary that we have this peace with god through our lord jesus christ.

Now, this word lord is being used in two different ways. It means both things. At once, when it refers to the lord jesus, and if you have your bible open to Uh, to the letter to the Romans. You can see in chapter one. Very quickly, both of those uses.

Which he promised before through his prophets, in the holy scriptures are the gospel of god. But she promised before through his prophets, in the holy scriptures, concerning his son jesus christ, our Lord. Jesus christ, our lord and in that context, with the word hour, it really does mean our master Uh the one of whom we are all happy bond slaves and we will get to that in a minute.

And the word lord can just mean master which we Have shortened in our In our english to mr. Or sir. Uh, but It can just mean master and certainly there, it means master, although always with jesus, it's master capital m, but then down in verse 7, to all those who are in Rome, beloved of god, called to be saints, grace to you and peace from god, our father and the lord jesus christ, the form that we especially have in our short text this evening.

This is a grace and a peace that comes from god. And it cannot come. From man, at all. And when he is called the lord jesus christ, it's referring to the same thing as we were remembering earlier in Philippians chapter 2, That he has the name that is above every name, not only in earth but in heaven, There's only one name.

That is above every name and it is the name yahweh. Which in? Copy of the Old Testament that most of the, Roman christians would have been using A copy written not in hebrew. But in greek, yahweh was actually written. Translated or not, translated substitute translated with the word. Curious lord.

And so the word lord here means both yahweh. Jehovah the creator. Our God. And it means our master. The one who has purchased us. As his slaves. And what a happy purchase. It was Because we do not go from freedom to slavery when we trust in our lord. Jesus christ.

We go from slavery, to sin slavery, to self. Slavery to the devil who has as the scriptures say the power of death and the fear of death having murdered us in our first parents tempting us and we fall into sin and therefore we know that we dive because it's the wages of sin.

And we know that death is not the worst thing that sin deserves Is a reminder that we deserve hell and that apart from that justification that we have through faith in jesus christ. We would indeed perish forever in hell. And so, that slavery to sin is sometimes. Expressed or experienced.

By that sense, that if i die i will be judged and i will be condemned. But most often most continually the slavery to sin, is experienced by the fact that Apart from grace, no one does anything. Out of wholehearted, love for god. No one does anything for his glory.

There are None who seek god, there are none, who do good. There are none, who are righteous The slavery from which the lord jesus purchases. Us was already opened up. Very thoroughly in chapter 3 and that transition From the wretched slavery to sin. To the wonderful slavery to god in which we offer ourselves and every part of what we are.

Not just all our body parts, of course. But our intellect, our time, our desires. Our, our efforts. That we offer it all as slaves unto God for righteousness, because we Are the slaves of god. We are the slaves of the lord jesus christ. Sin shall no longer be master over you.

He says in chapter 6 and we'll hear about that transition from the wretched slavery to sin. To the blessed slavery to christ in chapter 6, verses 5 through 22. There's no such thing as one. Who is not a servant. One who is not a slave. The only one, well, there is one.

The lord himself. Is lord and master. And not a servant. But for us, we are either slaves of christ. Or we are still wretched slaves of sin. Doing whatever you feel like, Is not freedom. It is the most miserable bondage, but christians are ransomed. We're paid for. We are redeemed.

We're purchased. We are subjects of the king of kings and lord of lords. And so we have peace with god. Through. Our lord jesus christ. This means that either you are still at enmity with god and have a and in slavery to your sin or You are a joyous slave of god and it enmity with your sin.

In fact, this was the first way that the gospel was proclaimed, wasn't it? Not just that, there would come that singular seed who would crush the serpent's head? But that our god would mercifully, put enmity between those whom, he was redeeming, those whom he was calling the seed of the woman.

And the seed of the serpent and the serpent himself. It is a blessed enmity that he brings us into with our sin and we'll be hearing about that not only in this transfer of of ownership in chapter 6, going from slavery, to sin, to slavery to god in righteousness.

But also in this blessed freedom, that the spirit brings us into and that's the spirit leads us in as we put to death. The deeds of the body and make war. On our sin. And it's a happy. Uh, description to have jesus as lord, which of course with him as master.

It makes us servants and slaves because The believer actually wishes that he recognized this in the way that a human slave would of a human master in an earthly bondage. When someone is an earthly bondage. When someone is an earthly slave, he doesn't get to think for himself first or think of himself first.

Uh, we have many conveniences now and we don't have At least in this this country. Very much. Slavery now. But, if you think some 100 200 years ago. Well, 200 years ago. If you were a slave, you would have to wake up early. So that you could go to your master's bedroom and make sure that the fire was going.

So that it would be warm for the master when he woke up and as the master prepared for his day in the bedroom that you warmed for him, i guess it depends on how many much staff there there is but you would have your other duties that you attended to perhaps seeing to the breakfast or whatever else.

It was that you were doing your first thought wasn't for yourself. You would do. Whatever was required of you because as soon as you woke up in the morning, You would immediately be aware. That you're a slave, you belong to another, you live for another. Even the lord jesus taught, this it's not unique to to American slavery.

Many aspects of Of which were Were wicked in a way that slavery and other places hasn't necessarily been although it is often wicked and the slavery that exists in the world today and Muslim nations and the Chinese nation. And in things like human trafficking is is awful and terrible.

It is analogous to being a slave to sin. Not a slave. To god and the lord jesus christ. But even jesus said, if you have a servant And he comes in from the field, he's been working all day. Uh, do you wait on him or or to you tell him to prepare your meal for you first?

And after you have eaten, then the slave can eat. Well, there is one happy aspect of the illustration, which is Don't we all know that this is the way we ought to live. With our lord, jesus christ. Now, it's a happy service that he's brought us into, he doesn't He doesn't command us to do anything that he isn't producing in us to begin with when we get to the next chapter.

And we hear Sin shall no longer be master over you, we will hear that. We are not under law, but we are under grace Sin is master over us because that's what we deserved for it to be. And we were hostile to the law of god. The law of god was good, but as he'll say in chapter 8, it was weakened.

By our flesh by our sinfulness and and therefore didn't produce righteousness in us. What did it produce in us? Well, sin, taking opportunity of the good laws as chapter 7 produced death in us. And response to the law of god. But we're not under law slavery to god slavery, to the lord.

Jesus christ to him as master is to be under grace, which doesn't mean you don't longer have to do anything that god says, Uh, sadly, there are many, who think of it that way. No, that's not what grace is. It means that you can for the first time walk according to the righteous requirements of the law.

This is what god has done through jesus christ, his son, this is what the opening verses of Romans 8 rejoice over that god has done through jesus. And now the law is in the hands of the spirit of life, who has been given to us by the lord jesus christ.

You see, grace isn't just blessing for those who deserve only curse, and we've already said, doing whatever you want, is curse doing what God wants. That's blessed. But it's also strength. For those who have only weakness, my grace is sufficient for you for my strength is made perfect. And weakness.

And so as those who belong to the lord jesus christ, What we not seek from god to have that awareness? That if a human in a miserable bondage, Can have that awareness from the first moment they get up. They're awake in the morning. That they have a master. And that they are to live.

According to his will how much more We who have this splendid service. In which he only commands us to do those things that redound to our eternal happiness. And are infinite, blessedness. And not only does he only command those things but he himself supplies from himself, the life, the desire, the goodness, the strength, the instruction, the wisdom, everything that we need.

Is in jesus christ for us.

Indeed, we are grieved. When we forget, That we are servants. Or find ourselves feeble and failing. In our fighting against the old slavery. That has no right over us. But as the apostle will say in the next chapter, So many. Who do those things? Act as if they are slaves.

But when you sin, you're acting as if you're a slave of sin again instead of a slave of Jesus. And so, we rejoice. Not only to know that the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord of us. Now, But that he is such a Lord as perfects, his servants. And one day we will never again forget Will never have another unmindful moment.

In which we're forgetting that, we belong to Jesus. He who has begun the work in you? The work that. If he has begun it, you're so often frustrated it the current state of it. He will complete it. And you will rejoice to be his slave and serve him. With all of all that you are.

Not a moment. Pollution of any stray thought or desire? Pleasure, or purpose. But not only are we slaves to our Lord? Jesus Christ. We're also brothers. We were. Predestined to be conformed, to the image of the Son. So that he would be the firstborn among many brethren So yes, he is our master.

But we're also being conformed to him as joint heirs. And when you hear that, Jesus Christ is Lord. That God the Son has become the one in whom we have peace with God. You're not just hearing about a life of service now and obedience living for him, according to his will all day every day for the rest of this life and then perfectly.

So in eternity You're hearing about your inheritance. Your privilege. Your status. For we learn to call God, the Father, our Abba, And to know ourselves indwelt by God. The Holy Spirit. And joined united through this faith to God the Son forever. That he suffers together with us. We we suffer together with him for a little while.

And then we will be glorified together with him so that we can inherit together with them. As the apostle will tell us. In chapter 8. In him, we are The adopted royal princes and princesses. Of the cosmos. We're still creatures. And therefore servants. But we have been joined united.

To God the Son. He takes his church to be him. He says of us bone of his bone. And flesh of his flesh. And he has committed. So, so to sanctify us, That we will be a bride corporately, we will be a bride fit for King Jesus in the last day.

And so the question of whether you are justified by faith, that you have a right standing with God. Or the question of whether you have genuine peace with God, one that will not evaporate. When the sky feels back and the Lord, Jesus appears in the sky. And we stand before him at the judgment.

Those questions have the same answer. They are answered identically. With the question of whether you are the servant Of the Lord. Jesus Christ who sits on the throne of heaven. And so, I ask you this evening. Are you his servant? Not, are you a good one? We even if we Did everything that was required of us.

The scripture says, to say we're unprofitable servants. What have we done? Except that, which was required Not, are you a good one? But are you his servant? Do you have a master? Do you know that you're not your own? Are the things that please him when you sit and plan your priorities.

If you look over, The way you wish your life was going. Is it ordered out according to the master's priorities?

Because being justified by faith in Jesus Christ, doesn't just bring us into a condition of peace with God. It also brings us into a condition of servitude. Because that piece that we have is through. Our Lord, Jesus Christ.