

## Peace With God

*“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.” Romans 5:1-2.*

The glory of God is a terrifying thing to those who do not have peace with God. Why would a person who is not at peace with God have any hope in God revealing His glory to us? In fact, the revelation of God's glory will do nothing but fill such an individual with immense terror and horror when they see Him and understand what awaits them. Just as a wicked slave has no delight in the thought of the return of their righteous master, so, too, do the wicked of this world have no delight in the thought of the return of God. Why does a wicked slave loath the coming of his master? Because the wicked slave purposely and rebelliously corrupted the relationship between the slave and the master. The relationship between the two is not ended once the wicked slave acts wickedly. The relationship is corrupted and marred.

This was how we once were, but it is not how we are. Paul is reminding Christians of the reality of their situation: That this kind of fear and anxiety is not what they have. They have no reason to be afraid of God. In chapter 8 Paul gives the church in Rome the absolute assurance, “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” Christians do not have a relationship with God that is corrupted and marred. They have a relationship that has been restored.

This relationship, though, wasn't restored because God looked the other way due to a person's act of contrition. God is able to be at peace with us because He already laid the punishment for the sins of the world onto Jesus. There is an inescapable penalty for sinning against God. But out of love, God took this penalty upon Himself – through Jesus. This is how we're able to have peace with God. A peace that is more assured and more reliable than anything we've ever experienced. We have a peace, a harmony, a freedom from worry, when we contemplate God and how He views us. This peace is a peace that surpasses understanding. This is peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**[DJR]**