

# Pastor's Pen

Joy

***"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."***  
-Romans 5:1

I start this week by asking a question does your joy come out of obedience or obedience out of joy? As believers we know that we are called to rejoice always in the Lord (Philippians 3:1). What are we rejoicing about? We are rejoicing in our salvation. In Romans 5:1 we are told that we have peace with God through Jesus Christ our Lord. John MacArthur writes the following about this peace:

"The peace that Paul is speaking about here is not subjective but objective. It is not a feeling but a fact. Apart from salvation through Jesus Christ, every human being is at enmity with God, spiritually at war with Him (see v. 10; cf. 8:7), regardless of what his feelings about God may be. In the same way, the person who is justified by faith in Christ is at peace with God, regardless of how he may feel about it at any given moment. Through his trust in Jesus Christ, a sinner's war with God is ended for all eternity."

Because we are no longer enemies of God we can rejoice always in the Lord, knowing that our salvation is secure through our faith in Christ Jesus. Therefore our joy is not dependent on our obedience but our obedience is a byproduct of our joy. If our joy came out of our obedience then our joy would depend on what we did or did not do as opposed to what Jesus did for us when he became the propitiation for our sins (Romans 3:25). As a father of five children and 7 grandchildren I know that I would not hesitate to lay my life down for anyone of them in order to save their life. It would not depend on whether or not they were good or bad, or if they were obedient or disobedient. So, if I, a mere man, would lay down my life for my children how much more will God do for you?

God does not love you anymore because you are obedient or disobedient. He choose you before the foundation of the world to be His. He does not love you any less today then when you first got saved.

Christian, rejoice in your salvation. Rejoice knowing that no matter what this world has to offer it can never surpass the love that God has for you. So, even during times like theses when all around us people our worried and fearful of covid-19 and civil unrest, you can rejoice knowing that the one who did not spare His own Son to save you gives you joy and peace in this world.

Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

*"If Jesus is not enough to motivate you to godly living, you don't know Jesus."*  
-Paul Washer

# Grace Gems

How many are my iniquities and my sins?  
Job 13:23

Have you ever really weighed and considered how great the sin of God's people is? Think how heinous is your own transgression, and you will find that not only does a sin here and there tower up like an Alp, but that your iniquities are heaped upon each other, as in the old fable of the giants who piled Pelian upon Ossa, 1 mountain upon mountain. What an aggregate of sin there is in the life of one of the most sanctified of God's children! Attempt to multiply this, the sin of one only, by the multitude of the redeemed, "a great multitude that no one could number," 2 and you will have some conception of the great mass of the guilt of the people for whom Jesus shed His blood. But we arrive at a more adequate idea of the magnitude of sin by the greatness of the remedy provided.

It is the blood of Jesus Christ, God's only and well-beloved Son. God's Son! Angels cast their crowns before Him! All the choral symphonies of heaven surround His glorious throne. "God over all, blessed forever. Amen." 3 And yet He takes upon Himself the form of a servant and is scourged and pierced, bruised and torn, and at last slain; nothing but the blood of the incarnate Son of God could make atonement for our offenses.

No human mind can adequately estimate the infinite value of the divine sacrifice, for although the sin of God's people is great, the atonement that takes it away is immeasurably greater. Therefore, even when sin rolls in like a flood, and the remembrance of the past is bitter, the believer can still stand before the blazing throne of the great and holy God and cry, "Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised." 4 While the recollection of the believer's sin fills him with shame and sorrow, its very darkness serves to show the brightness of mercy; guilt is the dark night in which the fair star of divine love shines with serene splendor.  
-Alistair Begg



# Weekly Gatherings



## Bible Classes

New Testament  
Sunday School  
Sunday Morning @ 9AM-9:45AM



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Zoom Bible Study  
Tuesdays | 7PM  
Women's Zoom Bible Study



## Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM  
Teaching Series



## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study



## Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM  
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 07.05.20

General Offering .....	8,749.60
Building Fund .....	1,625.60
Uganda Missions .....	135.00
Total .....	10,510.20

Attendance ...146 present  
Online...23

## Got Questions

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
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# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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