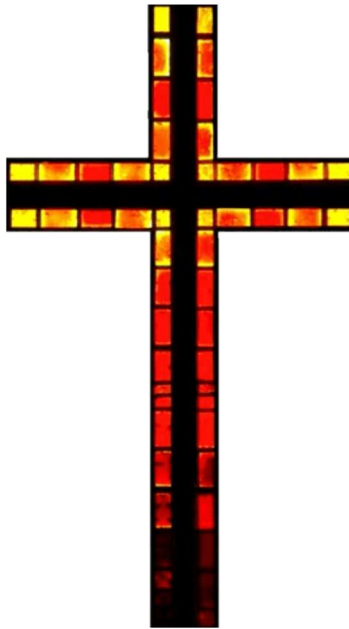


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The Riches of the Gospel

Romans 5:3-11

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Background

After a week off, we return to Romans 5, where we find more riches of the Gospel - we already saw four riches in verses 1-2. This week, we'll find that because of Jesus' death on the cross, we are much, much richer than we ever thought or imagined! Join us Sunday as we discover many, many more riches of the Gospel.

Sermon Text: *Romans 5:3-11*

³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Discussion Questions

1. Preparation

- What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?
- What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- What is the best thing you heard on Sunday?

2. Sunday Questions:

1. Jesus died on the cross. He made us have peace with God, be grounded in grace, have access to God and have *"hope of glory."* How do you celebrate these riches from the gospel?

2. As we live out the values and purposes of the kingdom, tribulation occurs when the kingdom of God collides with the kingdom of man. The chain reaction of the tribulation is *perseverance; character; and hope.* *5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.* Could you share your experience of tribulation which brought the riches of gospel in a surprising way?

3. The gospel is God's plan. Jesus brought us the salvation and initiated reconciliation. Can you articulate God's love pouring out to us like the Niagara Falls?

4. The implications of God's overwhelming love are we live every day in his love, and we become agents of reconciliation. Can you share your real-life experiences with these two implications?

5. Let us summarize the riches of the gospel. Which one/ones is/are most relevant to what you are experiencing now and why?

- We have peace with God
- We are grounded in grace
- We have access to God
- We have the *"hope of glory."*
- We have tribulations where we develop perseverance, character and hope.
- We live in the gushing Niagara Falls of God's love.

- We have the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- We've been saved in every way possible.
- We've been reconciled to the living God, and we can call the living God our friend.