v. 1 - Peace with God

- This is a "positional peace" granted to every believer by trusting the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation (this is the only way of peace WITH God!) - Acts 4:12
- Salvation changes our position from being an enemy of God to a child of God.
- Eph. 2:14:17; Col. 1:20-22; John 3:36; John 5:24; John 6:37
- This positional "peace **with** God" is <u>not the practical peace</u> of mind or a good feeling we have based on our service or growing as a Christian (that would be called having "the peace **of** God"). Phil. 4:6-8; Col. 3:15-17
- Our peace with God is our *legal/positional/judicial standing* before God where believers have a perfectly sinless position and have been declared completely righteousness by God through the blood of Jesus Christ. 2 Cor. 5:21
- v. 2 Access to God
- The believer's standing is by grace through faith. Eph. 2:8-9
- By Jesus Christ, and no other, we have direct access to God by faith.
- Faith is the medium of access, grace is the provision of God. John 1:17
- The "glory of God" will be shown at Christ's 2nd Advent. Ps. 102:16; Isa. 60:1-2
- Christ is our hope of glory. Titus 2:11-13; Col. 1:27; 1 Thess. 2:19-20
- Peace, joy, and certain hope is always to be in the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

vv. 3-5 - Tribulation produces a chain of blessings: Patience, Experience, Hope, (as well as fruitfulness) WE MUST LEARN THIS BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW!!

v. 3 - Glory in Tribulations - 1 Peter 4:14-16; 5:8-11; 2 Cor. 7:4; 12:9-10; 2 Tim. 2:8-10

- Trials, problems, troubles and tribulations in this life are a certainty. John 16:33; Acts 14:22; Job 14:1, 5:7
- Tribulation is the fountain of spiritual growth and maturity.
- The Bible is <u>not</u> talking about a martyr's complex, sadism, <u>or</u> the natural consequences of trials and trouble which results from sin. 1 Peter 2:19-21
- Troubles, persecutions, and tribulations now cannot begin to be compared to eternal glory with the Lord. 2 Cor. 4:17; 1 Pet. 3:13-17; 4:12-13; Matt. 5:11-12
- Tribulation produces patience Heb. 10:36; 2 Cor. 6:4-10; Col. 1:9-11; James 1:2-4

v. 4 - Patience produces experience and experience produces hope - James 5:7-8

- Patience (through faith in the Lord) sees beyond the immediate/temporal into the eternal. 2 Cor. 4:16-18
- Tribulation increases our faith in God. 2 Cor. 1:3-11
- HOPE: Ps. 31:24; Prov. 14:32; Jer. 17:7; Lam. 3:21-26; Rom. 12:12; 15:4, 13; Tit.1:2; 3:7
- Biblical hope is not the wishful thinking of the world, but rather the confident anticipation and certain expectation of that which is **absolutely sure** to happen in the future. 1 Thess. 1:3; 1 John 3:1-3; Eph. 1:18; Hebrews 6:18-19; 1 Pet. 1:3-5

v. 5 - Hope gives all believers confidence & courage - 2 Pet.1:3-8; Ps. 56:11; 118:8-9

- Since God makes even our tribulations to produce good results, then there is NEVER a reason to be ashamed of our relationship with Jesus Christ. Rom. 1:16; 9:33; 10:11; 1 Pet. 4:16; 2 Tim. 1:8, 12; Luke 9:26
- As believers, we have the opportunity to show the love of God. John 13:35
- The indwelling Holy Ghost is <u>a gift</u> to every believer upon salvation. Acts 10:45; Rom. 8:16; Eph. 1:13-14; John 14:16-18; 2 Cor 1:21-22

v. 6 - Christ died for the ungodly (all of us) ("**ungodly**" defined in v.8 as "**sinners**") - 1 John 2:2; Rom. 3:10-12, 23

- While we never even tried to seek God or keep His Law, Jesus died for us anyway. Rom. 3:10-12, 5:8
- The natural (lost) man is constantly taking on the impossible task of justifying himself to God rather than letting Jesus Christ do it for him.
- Two kinds of righteousness in the Bible. Luke 5:32; Rom. 10:3-4
- There is no hope for incurably self-righteous people. Eph. 2:12
- We must first see our sinfulness and ungodliness before we will ever trust to Jesus to be saved. Luke 18:13, 19:10; Isa. 64:6

v. 7-8 - Comparison of somebody who might be willing to die for a "righteous man" versus Jesus Christ dying for all of us ungodly sinners.

- No man has a righteous position before God without believing on Jesus Christ.
- However, some might be willing to die for a "good person" (e.g. spouse or relative) if there was a good practical reason for doing so. John 15:13
- But Jesus died for the ungodly (v.6) and unrepentant murderers, rapists, prideful, prostitutes, pedophiles, abortionists, terrorists, thieves, sodomites, and all of His mockers, scorners, i.e. all of His enemies. Rom. 4:5
- At Calvary, God proved, displayed, and demonstrated His love and made the payment for sin that is available to anybody who will receive it. Rom. 5:8
- Notice this love at Calvary and is an event from the **past**, e.g. Christ <u>DIED</u> (past tense) for us. "LOVED": Eph. 2:4; 5:2; 2 Thess. 2:16; 1 John 4:10, 19; Rev. 1:5
- For those who trust Jesus Christ for salvation, they are forever under the love of God. Rom. 8:35-39 (memorize)
- For those who reject Jesus Christ, God's hates these sinners (all workers of iniquity) and His wrath abides on them. Deut. 16:22-17:1; Ps. 5:4-6; 7:11; 10:2-3; 11:5-7; John 3:18, 36; Hos. 9:15
- Then who does the Lord love today? Ps. 146:8; Prov. 15:9; 2 Cor. 9:7; Heb. 12:6
- While God's love afforded mankind His plan of salvation in Jesus Christ 2000 years ago (John 3:16), God does NOT love sinners who reject Jesus Christ as their Saviour. John 3:16-18, 5:24

v. 9 - Christians are saved from God's wrath by the shed blood of Jesus. - Heb. 9:22

- Believers have no fear of God's wrath and condemnation.- 1 Thess. 1:10; Col. 1:14
- Not only are believers justified and cleansed from all sin, we are forever saved from all future wrath through the blood atonement of Jesus Christ.- 1 Thess. 5:9-11
- Believers are completely pardoned/cleared of all blame and guilt of sin.-Heb. 1:3
- The payment made by Jesus at the cross gives believers rightful justification.- Acts 13:39.
- Jesus Christ fully paid our sin debt "once for all" at the cross. Heb. 10:10
- v. 10 Salvation Past, Present, and Future Eph. 1:13-14; 2 Cor 1:9-10
- Delivered from: 1) **Penalty**, 2) **Power** (potentially) and 3) future **Presence** of sin!
- **PAST**: Believers "were reconciled" by God by the crucifixion of Jesus Christ at Calvary, while we were still enemies of God. Col. 1:21; Eph. 2:19
- God wants to all sinners to be reconciled to God by Christ. 2 Cor. 5:20; 2 Pet 3:9
- **PRESENT**: Believers are "being reconciled" (and He keeps us saved) by the resurrected Jesus Christ through His continual intercession. 2 Tim. 1:12; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25; Jude 1:24
- FUTURE: Believers "shall be saved by his life." John 10:9, 14:19-20; Col. 1:27, 3:3-4
- v. 11 Joy of Being Saved
- Jesus Christ is the only Saviour, and believers can rejoice in our hope. Rom. 5:2
- "Atonement" The ONE AND ONLY usage in the NT (69X in OT). Here, atonement refers back to the two uses of the word "reconciled" in v. 10. - John 1:12
- Jesus Christ in the NT is BOTH our atonement (blood sacrifice for the payment of our sins → i.e. our "propitiation"), and our reconciliation (resulting in restored relationship), fulfilling the OT types of atonement and reconciliation.
- OT atonement through animal sacrifices did **not** take away sins; OT reconciliation was **conditional** on Jesus Christ's once and for all payment for sin at the cross.
- Christ's blood atonement resulted in complete reconciliation to God.
- OT saints were indeed reconciled to God, but the full atonement came only after the D/B/R of Jesus Christ when their sins were finally and forever taken away.
- The word "purged" is defined as "taken away". Heb. 1:1-3, 10:4; Isa. 6:7

vv. 12-21 - Adam, who brings sin and death (by disobedience to God) in contrast to (v.14) Jesus Christ, who brings **righteousness** and **eternal life**.

- Five (the number of death) times we see that death is due to the sin of one man.
- Summary \rightarrow Jesus alone is the only cure for sin and death. 1 Cor. 15:21-22
- Common Thread of this passage: The word "one" (used 12 times in vv. 12-19)
- Bible Doctrine of *Headship*: God passes blessings, curses, and judgment down through a family, tribe, nation, or race due to the actions of **the one who represents** those people before God, e.g. Adam, Abraham, Jesus Christ (who is the last Adam in 1 Cor. 15:45)

v. 12 - The consequence of **one** man's sin is death to mankind (The Headship of Adam)

- Adam's sin of eating of the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil" (Gen. 2:17) ushered in <u>sin and death</u> to the entire human race, and all men suffer the *consequences* of being in Adam's loins, since the whole human race was being represented by Adam before God. Gen. 5:1-3; Ex. 20:5-6
- However, each person's **own sin** causes *personal* guilt and blame before God, therefore each and every person is lost and damned to hell because of his/her own personal sin, **not** because of Adam's sin.
- Adam's sin separated men from God and all are born without the Holy Spirit. Eph. 2:1-5; Col. 2:13
- The context of this verse is to show the contrast with vv. 18-19 for how Jesus Christ brings eternal life to the human race. 2 Cor. 8:9
- Parenthetical explanation of this contrast is found in vv. 13-17
- v. 13 The consequence of sin before the Law was given (cf. with 4:15)
- Universal death was **<u>NOT</u>** the consequence of *personal* sin from the time between Adam to the giving of the Law under Moses some 2500 years later.
- Death entered the human race when Adam disobeyed the **express command** of God, which had the **express consequence** of bringing death upon mankind.
- All men were sinners from Adam to Moses (Gen. 6:5), but *personal sin* was **not** imputed **prior** to the giving of the Law, i.e. the reign of death (v.14) was the universal and inescapable curse affecting all flesh. Rom. 6:23
- Universal death to mankind was the consequence of Adam's sin. Gen. 2:17
- This does **NOT** mean the people were blameless from Adam to Moses; they were accountable to God based on 1) their conscience and 2) the light God gave them.
- v. 14 Adam is a *contrasting* type of Jesus Christ 1 Cor. 15:21-22, 45-50
- "who is a figure of him that was to come"
- Just as Adam had a bride named Eve (a type of the church) who was actually a part of his physical body, so does Jesus Christ have a bride, which is the Church.

v. 15 - The offence of Adam compared to the free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ

- Adam's offence brought death to the whole human race, but Jesus Christ brings eternal life as a **free gift** to whosoever believeth in Him. Rom. 10:9-13
- Notice salvation is by one man \rightarrow Jesus Christ. 1 Tim. 2:5; John 14:6; Acts 4:12
- UNEQUAL COMPARISON Adam's sin brought the curse of death to **ALL** mankind (no choice); while salvation in Jesus Christ is only available to people who will receive it by faith alone in the D/B/R of Jesus Christ (a willful choice).
- "much more" and "abounded" shows us that Jesus Christ's cure IS FAR SUPERIOR to Adam's disobedience and sin, and is available as a free gift to anybody who will believe on Jesus. 2 Tim. 1:10

- This means (for the believer) that the **forgiveness of sin** and **eternal life** in Jesus Christ is **MORE CERTAIN** than physical death!
- Since **salvation** in Jesus Christ is more powerful than Adam's sin and death, eternal life is **MORE CERTAIN** than physical death.

v. 16 - Another comparison: "Adam's sin" versus "many offences" put away by Jesus

- Adam brought condemnation and death with a **single** sin, but Jesus Christ brings the free gift of justification from all sins "many offences", past, present, and future.
- Jesus Christ did not just pay the price for the one sin of Adam, but he paid the full price for the accumulated sins of the whole world. 1 Tim. 2:4-6; 1 John 2:2; Heb. 2:9
- UNEQUAL COMPARISON Adam disobedience brought automatic sin and universal death to the whole human race, but Jesus Christ's obedience does NOT make 1) all men automatically saved or 2) all believers automatically obedient. Each *individual* must decide 1) whether to be saved & then 2) whether to serve.
- In Adam you have **no choice** but to have a sin nature and **certain death** as a member of the human race, but in Jesus Christ you have the **opportunity** to make a **willful choice** to receive Jesus and His righteousness and to have eternal life as a free gift.
- v. 17 Comparing Adam's reign of death to Jesus' reign of life
- The "abundance of grace" brings a "reign of life" to all believers in Jesus Christ.
- Grace not only provides full and complete payment for sin, but also provides eternal life.
- Grace is something that must be "received" individually. John 1:12; 3:16

v. 18 - How does Jesus provide eternal life to a human race that is under the curse of sin and death?

- 3rd usage of "free gift" cf. vv. 15 and 16 and refers to the gift of righteousness (v.17) and the gift of eternal life (6:23)
- How do these gifts come? "by the righteousness of one", that is by Jesus Christ! (v. 18)
- By "one" (Adam) judgment and condemnation to death came upon **all men**, however, by "one" (Jesus) the free gift of justification and eternal life is available to **all men**. 1 Tim. 2:4-6; 2 Pet. 3:9
- What about those who have "never heard"? (A stupid question asked by people who have the audacity to question the integrity of God and who do not know the Bible.) Gen. 18:25; Job 34:10-12; Ps. 19:9, 67:4, 96:10, 13; 98:9, 119:75, 145:17; John 1:8-9, 8:46; Titus 2:11; Rom. 1:20; Heb. 4:15

- As a result of Adam's *disobedience*, all people reap the consequence of death; but by Jesus Christ's *obedience* all believers receive the free gift of Jesus Christ's righteousness and eternal life.
- Anyone that conditions salvation on ANY FORM of obedience to works is not saved!
- Proof that people can be saved, but have no good works 1 Cor. 3:11-15
- Example of Lot: 2 Pet. 2:6-8

v. 19 - Unequal comparison of "many"

- Adam's "many" refers to <u>all mankind;</u> Jesus' "many" is <u>all believers</u>
- "made" here means imputed (put, reckoned, ascribed, counted, reckoned)
- Jesus Christ's complete obedience Phil. 2:5-8; 2 Cor. 5:21

v. 20 - How does the Law fit into all of this? (cf. Rom. 3:20, 28; 7:7)

- The purpose of the Law is that it was **added** to man's conscience as a means to show us our sinful and hopeless condition before God. Gal. 3:24-25; Eph. 2:1-13
- The Law causes sin to <u>abound</u>, i.e. it shows man his extreme sinfulness, with the intent that man would seek forgiveness and a cure in Jesus Christ. John 1:15-17
- The Law is not a means for becoming righteous, because nobody (except Jesus Christ Himself) has ever been able to keep it. James 2:10; Gal. 5:1-6
- God's grace is **MUCH** greater than all our sin. (Hymn: Grace Greater Than Our Sin)

v. 21 - Adam = Sin = Death <u>to all men;</u> Jesus = Grace = Eternal life <u>to all believers in</u> Jesus Christ

- Adam passed on his physical and spiritual nature (sin and death) to all men automatically.
- Trusting Jesus Christ allows God to give us Jesus' spiritual nature and imputed righteousness as an absolutely free gift (right now positionally). Rom. 10:3-4
- Sin reigns unto death while grace reigns unto eternal life through the righteousness of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, what a Saviour!!