

## Knowing the Father

Romans 5:1-11

We can have great joy in knowing God the Father through the Son by the permeating presence of the Spirit.

*Persons of the Trinity can be distinguished, but never separated.*

We have peace with God the Father (1).

- “having been justified”—the condition of our peace with the Father
- “through our Lord Jesus Christ”—the ground of our peace with the Father

We have obtained access to God the Father (2a).

- “Access into this grace in which we stand”—solid acceptance by God
- “by faith”—the means of our receiving the Father’s grace
- “into this grace”—gift of Himself

We rejoice in hope of the glory of God the Father (2b).

- Present sufferings serve future hope (3-4).
- Present experience of God’s love is by the Holy Spirit (5).
  - The measure of God’s love is Christ’s death (6-10). God’s love is:
    - Holy love—“by the Holy Spirit”
    - Kind love—“saved from wrath” “saved by His life”
    - Gracious love—“while we were sinners/enemies”
    - Deep/high/ wide/ vast/ surpassing love—“the death of His Son”
  - We rejoice in God (11), not in His gifts, but in Him, now.

Hindrances to enjoying the love of God the Father:

- Self-righteousness
- Legalism
- Over-realized eschatology
- Libertinism

Helps to enjoying the love of God the Father:

- Rest in the Father’s declaration that you are righteous in Christ.
- Do not anxiously work to earn God’s acceptance, but joyfully work to please your Father.
- Hope in God.
- Rejoice in God by meditating on the death of His Son for you and by praying in the Spirit.