

“Love Poured into Hearts – by God’s Spirit”

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:5 NKJ)

- I. The love of God being POURED into our hearts demonstrates the abundance of God’s amazing grace –*

“... My cup runs over.” (Psalm 23:5 NKJ)

- 1. This is what is communicated in the first four verses of Romans 5 –*

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.³ And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;⁴ and perseverance, character; and character, hope. (Romans 5:1-4 NKJ)

- A. Jesus Christ took the lightning bolt of God’s wrath which we deserved, that is what being “justified by faith” means we have “peace” with God, not because we in anyway deserved it, but because Christ took upon Himself, the wrath, we deserved!*
B. Because of what Jesus Christ did on the cross, we stand, in a state of grace, where we have access to God, meaning we can pray to Him – in Jesus’ Name! We rejoice in this, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God – meaning Heavenly reward!
C. Because of this we glory even in tribulations, etc...

- 2. This so different from what is poured on sinners who are without Jesus Christ –*

Consider what is usually POURED upon people/sinners is God’s wrath – 2 Chronicles 34:21 & 25; Isaiah 42:25; Jeremiah 7:20; 42:18; 44:6; Lamentations 2:4; 4:11; Ezekiel 20:33-34; 22:22; 36:18; Nahum 1:6; Zephaniah 1:17; Revelation 14:10; 16:2-4; :8; :10; :12 & :17 or a spirit of stupor or a curse – Isaiah 29:10; Daniel 9:10

- 3. Only because of Christ’s death upon the cross and God’s grace is the Holy Spirit poured on us –*

Ezekiel 39:29; Acts 2:33; 10:45 & Titus 3:6

- 4. The Spirit POURS God’s Love into our hearts –*

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:5 NKJ)

- II. It is “by the HOLY SPIRIT” this love of God is poured –*

- 1. Pastors, teachers, evangelists, apostles, prophets are called by Paul “workers together with God” but ---*

^{NKJ} **2 Corinthians 6:1 We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. (2Co 6:1 NKJ)**

⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. ⁷ So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. (1Co 3:6-7 NKJ)

- 2. I can teach about the love of God –*

A. It is everlasting– The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you. (Jeremiah 31:3 NKJ)

B. It is displayed in His giving His Son – “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16 NKJ)

- C. It is expressed even to great sinners –*

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:6-8 NKJ)

- 3. Now, I can teach these things, you can study them, even diligently --- yet the LOVE of God is made REAL to us, beautiful, powerful in its impact on our hearts ONLY BY THE HOLY SPIRIT –*
A. In this we are beggars, we must PRAY for this blessing –

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height--¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:14-19 NKJ)

B. *In this God is sovereign, the gift, the understanding of God's wonderful love, though promised, is not gained by demanding it from God but by humble PRAYER!*

III. It is "into our hearts" this love is poured –

1. *How important are our hearts? –*

Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life. (Proverbs 4:23 NKJ)

2. *How wicked / deceitful can our hearts be?*

⁹ "The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? (Jer 17:9 NKJ)

¹⁹ "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. (Mat 15:19 NKJ)

3. *Yet God gives us new hearts –*

²⁶ "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. (Eze 36:26 NKJ)

A. *It is the heart of flesh that is extremely sensitive and ready to receive God's love, to understand it, rejoice in it, to get excited about it, to the point of sharing it!*

B. *We break up our fallow ground / hard hearts by confessing and repenting of sin –*

Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For *it is* time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you. (Hosea 10:12 NKJ)

C. *God's way with our hearts is first to prick them –*

³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?" (Act 2:37 NKJ)

D. *When we are humbled His love is poured into our hearts –*
⁶ But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." (Jam 4:6 NKJ)
Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up. (James 4:10 NKJ)

IV. It is "the LOVE of GOD" God's Spirit pours into our hearts –

1. *A higher, better, purer love than you will find in this world –*
⁹ "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. (Isa 55:9 NKJ)

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:6-8 NKJ)

A. *The Love of God is expressed in the cross of Jesus Christ which is consider foolishness by men –*

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1Co 1:18 NKJ)

B. *This is a great love because Christ died for us when we were still sinners, when we did not deserve it –*

¹³ "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. (John 15:13 NKJ) We were enemies! He made us friends!

C. *This love of God poured into our hearts is a love we can know and understand, as the Holy Spirit helps us –*

¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, (Eph 5:18 NKJ)

2. *This wonderful love and grace expressed toward us is something we should see in the Lord's Supper –*

A. *We should see the Love of God expressed to us, in the Lord's Supper, in the Gospel, in the Words of Scripture the Holy Spirit makes this real in our lives*

B. *Our celebration of the Lord's Supper is a time to renew our hearts in this LOVE, for God, for each other – PRAY Romans 5:5*