

**"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan****ROMANS 5****Romans 5**

**"Therefore"** is the first word of Romans 3:28, which begins Paul's drawing a conclusion and giving a solution to the problem of mankind in relation to being made right with God, knowing God, and having fellowship with Him. Paul has Biblically, historically, and experientially shown that man is a sinner and cannot save himself and that Abraham, the father of faith and the faithful, was declared righteous by God because of his trust/faith in God, not in works of righteousness which he had done. Paul concludes that we are justified through faith, and because of that, we have **peace with God**. Peace **with** God is different than the peace **of** God that Paul writes about in Philippians 4:6-7.

***Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*** (Romans 5:1)

***Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*** (Philippians 4:6-7)

εἰρήνη eiréné (i-ray'-nay) is the Greek word for "Peace," not in the sense of absence of conflict, but the counterpart to the Hebrew "Shalom," although not as rich in depth as Shalom, it has the same basic idea. ***eiréné*** (from *eirō*, "to join, tie together into a whole") – properly, ***wholeness***, i.e., when all essential parts are joined together; ***peace*** (God's gift of ***wholeness***).

The passage in Romans talks about a cessation of hostilities! In our weakened and politically correct culture, the church has forgotten to give the clarion call that those who have not humbly come to the Lord Jesus and surrendered to Him as LORD are at war with Him. Yes, war! The fancy word for that is "enmity." When we bow before the Lord Jesus in our hearts and give our lives to Him in repentance and trust/faith, we cease hostilities. We lift our hands in surrender and acknowledge He is Creator, Lord, Master, Boss: choose any surrender term you like. Peace with God means that we have put down and behind us the rebellion that has been in us since birth into Adam's race. We have come to God on His terms, not ours. It is total surrender. If you have not done that without equivocation, I tell you, you are still in your sin and in rebellion against God. Stop this moment and come to Jesus with no reservations, and the hostility will cease. Otherwise, you will hear the LORD say to you one day, "Depart from me, I never knew you." There are no deals with God.

The Passage in Philippians is a text dealing with believers and their trusting God with a thankful heart. The passage commands every child of God to rest in Jesus and allow the Holy Spirit to soothe and relax our mind and heart, our thinking and our emotions, in that order. Your rest, trust, and dependence on God will bring about the "Peace of God" that will guard and garrison your mind, emotions, and will.

**Prayer and Action Steps**

*Dear friend, if you are still in a frame of mind of rebellion today, lay down your arms, lift your voice to God, and surrender to Him without reservation. If you have done that, then "as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him." You received Him by trust/faith, then continue to trust Him with the earthly things that are troubling you. He loves you! You are His child! Talk to Him right now.*