

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. B. C. Datiri, Pastor

THE BOOK OF ROMANS: PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

April 6, 2014

8. Justification Leads to Peace and Hope

Romans 5:1-11

The question of justification is of paramount importance to every human being since all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. If this is the case that man has fallen short of God's standard what are the benefits of justification? Justification is when one is declared righteous or not guilty implying you are forgiven and freed of sin which leads to peace of mind and eternal hope. However, how does one get justified? Is it by your works or by faith? It is through faith in Jesus Christ which results in the new birth that makes one a Christian. We are also justified by the blood of Jesus. Do you have to do work to be justified? Definitely, "No!" but once justified and saved by grace, it is unto good works that reflect the character of Christ developed in you as you absolutely and consistently obey the word of God. Thus, Paul wants us to understand from the Book of Romans that this good news of faith in Jesus Christ for believer is more than facts to be believed but a life to be lived – a life of righteousness and dynamic transformation in building relationships that befits the person "justified freely by the Grace of God through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus".

So as we continue on the subject of practical Christianity today we shall focus on how "Justification Leads to Peace and Hope". To be justified is to be declared righteous, implying that all your sins have been forgiven! To be justified is to be blessed!! David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is he/she whose sin the Lord will never count against them." [Psalm 32:1, 2]. When you are blessed (happy), you have peace and when you have peace you become hopeful in your sufferings knowing the end products are character and hope which do not disappoint.

Thus our text for today reads, "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we [let us] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we [let us] boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we [let us] 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" (Romans 5:1-11).

Mt Traveler members, as we conclude the following are some main points to remember about practical Christianity. Practical Christianity involves:

- Building trustworthy relationships rather than religion: Being born again or accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and savior; and becoming part of the household of God as a believer.

- Fervor and not fear as the Holy Spirit who resides in the believer empower him to make determined commitment to be transformed and so reject conforming to the things of the world because of reverence.
- Faith and not foolishness: Faith helps build your commitment to God; thereby trusting Him and obeying Him. Fear makes you rationalize to figure everything from the human view point.
- Favor and favoritism: Favor is the grace and mercy from God and man; favoritism is play partiality and games to have your own way according to the desires of the flesh.
- Ultimately building Character not reputation: Character is who you are; reputation is what people or who you want people to think you. Christian character reflects Christ in you – the hope of glory!
- Honoring God through obedience because His judgment is always righteous, fair and without favoritism as it is based on truth
- The law being only profitable if it is obeyed as it will point you not only to the guilt of sin but also the righteousness obtained through faith in Jesus Christ
- Know that God is righteous and faithful even though no one is righteous by the works of the law; for all have sinned and fallen short of His glory.
- Believing God to be justified by your faith and not your works.
- Enjoying peace and having eternal hope because we have been justified and reconciled to God and sealed by the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- And let the church say, “Amen!”

To become part of the household of God as a believer, and be saved, have peace and happiness; and become part of the church to do the work of the church with hope to cause healthy church growth through practical Christianity, you must first know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and savior and then allow the Holy Spirit to empower you. If you have not, we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life by faith. I hope you will make room in your heart for Him today! Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved and become part of God’s family and kingdom. Then ask Him in prayers to empower you through the Holy Spirit with wisdom, courage and boldness to do the work of the Church to cause its continual growth. May God bless you as you humbly open your heart to provide room for Him as the choir leads us in a song!

If you are reading this on the Internet why don’t you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org? If you are a child of God and this message has blessed or helped to you, please write and tell us also.

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. B. C. Datiri, Pastor

THE BOOK OF ROMANS: PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

April 13, 2014

9. Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

Romans 5:12-21

Why is justification of paramount importance to every human being? It is because we have all messed up and have sinned, and fallen short of God’s glory. How did we mess up? It is through

the sin of disobedience through one man, Adam. If this is the case what are the benefits of justification? Justification is when one is declared righteous or not guilty implying you are forgiven and freed of sin thus granting you peace of mind and eternal hope. However, how does one get justified? Is it by your works or by faith? It is through faith in Jesus Christ which results in the new birth that makes one a Christian. We are also justified by the blood of Jesus. Do you have to do work to be justified? Definitely, “No!” but once justified and saved by grace, it is unto good works that reflect the character of Christ developed in you as you absolutely and consistently obey the word of God. Thus, Paul wants us to understand from this Book of Romans that this good news of faith in Jesus Christ for believer is more than facts to be believed but a life to be lived – a life of righteousness and dynamic transformation in building relationships that befits the person “justified freely by the Grace of God through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus”.

So as we continue on the subject of practical Christianity today we shall focus on “Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ”. The sin of Adam enables death to occur in everyman because the wages of sin is death. Does it mean that man is now hopeless? Not at all, because Jesus Christ’s death paid the price of sin so that man can be justified. To be justified is to be declared righteous, implying that all your sins have been forgiven! To be justified is to be declared “not guilty”. This is what provides eternal hope for the believer who trusted and accepted Christ as Lord and savior. So as sin entered the world through the disobedience of Adam and so infecting all people to die with it, life came through the obedience of Jesus Christ leading into life and hope eternal.

Thus our text for today reads, “Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned— 13 To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone’s account where there is no law. 14 Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come. 15 But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! 16 Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man’s sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. 17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! 18 Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. 19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. 20 The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, 21 so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 5:12-21).

Mt Traveler members, as we conclude the following are some main points to remember about practical Christianity. Practical Christianity involves:

- Building trustworthy relationships rather than religion: Being born again or accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and savior; and becoming part of the household of God as a believer.
- Fervor and not fear as the Holy Spirit who resides in the believer empower him to make

determined commitment to be transformed and so reject conforming to the things of the world because of reverence.

- **Faith and not foolishness:** Faith helps build your commitment to God; thereby trusting Him and obeying Him. Fear makes you rationalize to figure everything from the human view point.
- **Favor and favoritism:** Favor is the grace and mercy from God and man; favoritism is play partiality and games to have your own way according to the desires of the flesh.
- **Ultimately building Character not reputation:** Character is who you are; reputation is what people or who you want people to think you. Christian character reflects Christ in you – the hope of glory!
- **Honoring God through obedience** because His judgment is always righteous, fair and without favoritism as it is based on truth
- **The law being only profitable** if it is obeyed as it will point you not only to the guilt of sin but also the righteousness obtained through faith in Jesus Christ
- **Know that God is righteous and faithful** even though no one is righteous by the works of the law; for all have sinned and fallen short of His glory.
- **Believing God to be justified** by your faith and not your works.
- **Enjoying peace and having eternal hope** because we have been justified and reconciled to God and sealed by the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- **Understanding that death came through the disobedience of the first Adam** while eternal life came through the obedience of the second Adam (Jesus Christ).
- **And let the church say, “Amen!”**

To become part of the household of God as a believer, and be saved, have peace and happiness; and become part of the church to do the work of the church with hope to cause healthy church growth through practical Christianity, you must first know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and savior and then allow the Holy Spirit to empower you. If you have not, we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life by faith. I hope you will make room in your heart for Him today! Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved and become part of God’s family and kingdom. Then ask Him in prayers to empower you through the Holy Spirit with wisdom, courage and boldness to do the work of the Church to cause its continual growth. May God bless you as you humbly open your heart to provide room for Him as the choir leads us in a song!

If you are reading this on the Internet why don’t you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org? If you are a child of God and this message has blessed or helped to you, please write and tell us also.

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. B. C. Datiri, Pastor

THE BOOK OF ROMANS: PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

April 20, 2014

10. Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

Romans 6:1-14

There is no news about death that is ever good news except the news of the death of Jesus Christ

on the cross set mankind free from sin and make us dead to sin and alive in Him. A dead individual is insensitive to the physical changes in its environment. Those alive in Christ have arisen to a newness of life in Christ. They are not responsive to the luring of sin but excited about life in Christ - a life that pleases God. You live to please God because of His grace and mercies extended to you all the time. We often say, "God is good all the time"; and "All the time God is good". This is very true because of God's mercies and grace.

So as we continue on the subject of practical Christianity on this resurrection morning we shall focus on "Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ". And the issue to deal with is since we are enjoying the mercies and grace of God in Christ, shall we continue in sin so that grace may increase? The truth is that the law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. So in Christ we are alive but dead to sin. If so, how can we continue in sin after experiencing and enjoying an increased mercies and grace of God in the presence of increased sin? Paul explains that this is impossible!

Thus our text for today reads, "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,[Or be rendered powerless] that we should no longer be slaves to sin— 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. 13 Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. 14 For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace" (Romans 6:1-14).

Mt Traveler members, as we conclude the following are some main points to remember about practical Christianity. Practical Christianity involves:

- **Building trustworthy relationships rather than religion:** Being born again or accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and savior; and becoming part of the household of God as a believer.
- **Fervor and not fear** as the Holy Spirit who resides in the believer empower him to make determined commitment to be transformed and so reject conforming to the things of the world because of reverence.
- **Faith and not foolishness:** Faith helps build your commitment to God; thereby trusting Him and obeying Him. Fear makes you rationalize to figure everything from the human view point.
- **Favor and favoritism:** Favor is the grace and mercy from God and man; favoritism is play partiality and games to have your own way according to the desires of the flesh.

- Ultimately building Character not reputation: Character is who you are; reputation is what people or who you want people to think you. Christian character reflects Christ in you – the hope of glory!
- Honoring God through obedience because His judgment is always righteous, fair and without favoritism as it is based on truth
- The law being only profitable if it is obeyed as it will point you not only to the guilt of sin but also the righteousness obtained through faith in Jesus Christ
- Know that God is righteous and faithful even though no one is righteous by the works of the law; for all have sinned and fallen short of His glory.
- Believing God to be justified by your faith and not your works.
- Enjoying peace and having eternal hope because we have been justified and reconciled to God and sealed by the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- Understanding that death came through the disobedience of the first Adam while eternal life came through the obedience of the second Adam (Jesus Christ).
- Becoming dead to sin, and alive in Christ.
- And let the church say, “Amen!”

To become part of the household of God as a believer, and be saved, have peace and happiness; and become part of the church to do the work of the church with hope to cause healthy church growth through practical Christianity, you must first know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and savior and then allow the Holy Spirit to empower you. If you have not, we invite you to come, repent, and humbly accept Jesus Christ into your heart and life by faith. I hope you will make room in your heart for Him today! Then confess with your mouth your faith in Him that He died and rose again to save you from your sin through the shedding of His blood on Calvary, and you will be saved and become part of God’s family and kingdom. Then ask Him in prayers to empower you through the Holy Spirit with wisdom, courage and boldness to do the work of the Church to cause its continual growth. May God bless you as you humbly open your heart to provide room for Him as the choir leads us in a song!

If you are reading this on the Internet why don’t you pray asking Jesus Christ to be your Lord and savior, then write us at pastordatiri@mttraveler.org? If you are a child of God and this message has blessed or helped to you, please write and tell us also.

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, Alabama
Synopsis of Sermon Preached by Rev. R. D. Jacobs, Evangelist

THE BOOK OF ROMANS: PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

April 27, 2014

11. Slaves to Righteousness

Romans 6:15-23

In his Epistle to the Christians in Rome, the Apostle Paul wrote them with basic teachings to root and ground in the Faith so that they would become mature Christians. At the start of the Epistle, the Apostle has dealt with our sinful nature and God’s wrath towards it in Chapter 1. In chapter 2 he deals with God’s Judgment against Sin. In Chapter 3 he addresses God’s Faithfulness to those who follow His commandments. In the same Chapter he also addresses Righteousness through Faith in Jesus Christ. And Chapter 5 deals with new Life through Christ. These all are essential principals that Every Christian should know and understand. These are the beliefs that

move us from being under “The Law” to being under “Grace”!

When the “law” is mentioned, it is referencing the laws given to the Children of Israel by Moses. We often only reference the 10 commandments, but in Exodus 21, 22, 23 there are additional laws that Jews were attempting to keep. Under the Law we were a constant offense to it, as it could not be kept by our sinful flesh. Christ enabled us to move from under the burden of the law, to living by Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ.

In verses 15-18, Paul asks a question, “Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under Grace?” Paul tells us, By No Means! A Christian under grace has the ability to live life not worried about offending the law, when they live by the leading of the Holy Spirit. For the Holy Spirit will lead us in all Righteousness. Paul encourages us that our lives are not to be lived burdened by the law, but our Lives are to uphold the law. (Romans 3:31) This is a Christian living a Life worthy of Repentance.

Paul serves notice to each Christian, in verses 19-21, that sin has no power over us. It is the Holy Spirit that sets each Christian free from being enslaved to sin, to now being slaves of Righteousness to God. This should humble each Christian, to know that yielding to sin is only by choice. As we can yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit or we can yield power over to sin. By Faith in Christ we have been set free by the redeeming Power of God to no longer be slaves to sin but slaves of God that leads to holiness and results in Eternal Life! This power, is what Paul’s says is the Power of God unto Salvation to all that Believe. (Romans 1:16) This Power is the Gospel of Jesus the Christ! For truly the wages of Sin, or its payment is Death but the Gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord! Although Christ died on the Cross, He arose with all Power in His hand. He has Power over Satan, Power over Death, and Power over Sin. This Power can save any who would Believe and Trust in Him!