

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 5

EXTRA READING: NICENE CREED AND CANONS OF DORT, III/IV, ART 6

SINGING: 447:1, 3 – 317:1-4 – 355:1-3 – 280:1-4

THE BELIEVER'S SECURITY

I. It is a present security II. It is a future security

I. IT IS A PRESENT SECURITY

A. Notice the *small words* in God's Word: *so – yet – but – now!*

1. Rom. 5:9, 11; 7:6; 8:1 all refer to the same *truth 'now'*

- *much more then, being **now** justified by His blood ...*
- *... by Whom we have **now** received the atonement*
- *but we are **now** delivered from the law ...*
- *there is therefore **now** no condemnation to them ...*

2. What was before *now*?

a. Condemnation (Rom. 5:12,16; Gal. 3:10)

- *... so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned*
- *... for the judgment was by one to condemnation*

B. Only the believer is *now justified from all guilt through Christ's blood*

1. **'justified'** means: *upon inspection of the Judge, a person is declared and treated as just, innocent, blameless and therefore not only free to go but also entitled to all privileges of those who kept God's law*

2. **'through Christ's blood'** is only *ground – basis* how this is possible

3. This is the glorious message of Jesus' Gospel in many Scriptures

- a. saving faith in Jesus Christ (quality and not quantity) brings *instant and complete justification* (John 3:16-18; 6:54)
- *that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish ...*
  - *He that believeth on Him is not condemned*
  - *whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life*

II. IT IS A FUTURE SECURITY

A. Redemptive work of Christ goes further than destructive work of Adam

1. Rom. 5:20 *But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound*

2. Jesus' blood *canceled the debt of guilt all elect owed: **justified***

a. How are you righteous before God?

*Only by God, Who without any merit of us, out of mere grace grants and imputes all Christ's perfect obedience to me and in light of that **considers me as if I never had had nor committed any sin (which is totally guiltless!).*** (paraphrase of Lord's Day 23)

b. this means that on basis of Christ's satisfaction and the God's *justification* a sinner is restored back to the guilt-less state where Adam was *before he sinned*

3. But God's grace in Jesus Christ did ***much more abound***

a. God's grace in Christ *restores the elect sinner beyond Adam's guilt-less state before the Fall.*

- **united by faith to Christ, the believer is brought on the level where Adam would have come if he had obeyed perfectly**

b. How are you righteous before God?

*Only by God, Who without any merit of us, out of mere grace grants and imputes all Christ's perfect obedience to me and in that light not only consider me as totally guiltless but also as if I had fully accomplished all that obedience which Christ has accomplished for me.* (paraphrase of Lord's Day 23)

B. Those who are in or united to Christ need not fear: Rom. 5:9b-10b

1. In Christ each believer are *fully acceptable and covered by Christ*

- *much more than ... we shall be saved from wrath through Him*
- *much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life*
- *Verily, verily I say ... He that heareth my Word and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation.* (John 5:24)
- *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus* (Rom. 8:1a)

2. Upright soul: How can this be since I fail daily in my obedience?

a. Answer: *because we shall be saved through His life* (Rom. 5:10)

- Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us! (Rom. 8:34)

**FINALLY:** Heed Jesus' word: *You faith has made thee whole: go in peace!*

A. For in *Him* we will be presented, holy, unblameable and unreprouvable in His (the thrice Holy God!) sight! (Col. 1:22)

B. This embracing of this message of the Gospel will make a man *fear God without fear* (Luke 1:74)