

Heart Drenching, Thirst-Quenching Grace

Romans 5:1-5

First of all, we've obtained access to grace (vs. 2)

Also the Spirit has been poured out in our hearts (vs. 5)

Both of these verses refer to the same thing

At one time we did not have access to grace, then the Holy Spirit was poured out in us, and now we continue with constant access to that grace

What?

Give thanks for the grace that drenches us and the Spirit who quenches us

Living water—

Jeremiah 2:13, ESV—My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water

The issue is that in our natural condition we are blind to how God can satisfy the aching thirst we feel, and we try to quench it in our own way (alcohol is one example)

Also, we instinctively know that the thirst will be satisfied in a perfect relationship, so we search for the perfect person

Then, at a point in time, we experience this pouring out

There's a general sense in which God poured grace out for all mankind when He gave His one and only Son

But specifically for each of us, this pouring out of grace into our hearts happened the day we receive salvation by faith

The Jesus connection—

John 4:13-14, ESV—Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again”

This woman was trying to quench her thirst relationally
Jesus went on to explain to her that the gusher of grace would continue to bubble up within her to satisfy her thirst

John 4:14, ESV—“The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life”

John 7:39, ESV—Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified

So What?

The Bible teaches that we have two stunning gifts, one from the Father and one from the Son

Our heavenly Father gave us the gift of His Son, Jesus

Then Jesus Christ, after being exalted, poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit

Specifically, we can break the old habits and addictions

We can rejoice in suffering and grow in endurance, character and hope (vs. 3)

We can let imperfect people be imperfect, because we have fellowship with the Father through Jesus Christ

The final say—Jesus

Revelation 21:6, ESV—And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment”

Now What?

In your difficulties, ask God to drench you with the grace of endurance, character and hope

Let people be people and let God's Spirit be the One who quenches your thirst for perfect fellowship