

## WHERE LOVE FLOWS – The Context

### Romans 5:1-11

We covered the general context of Romans last week – how the full gospel is that God is establishing His kingdom among those who have faith in Jesus Christ thereby erasing manmade divisions and uniting believers in the love of Jesus Christ by His Spirit.

This week, we can look a little closer at the specific context of the text for this week’s message – Romans 5:1-11.

Here Paul gives the \_\_\_\_\_ of being \_\_\_\_\_ by faith in Jesus Christ. \_\_\_\_\_ is a legal term that means the accused have been \_\_\_\_\_ of their crimes. Paul uses this as a way of saying that believers have been declared \_\_\_\_\_. Because of this, Paul tells us in verse 1 that we have \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

**Bible nerd alert** – This passage could be a \_\_\_\_\_ or as an example of Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_.

Point A – Because of justification by faith, reconciliation. (vv. 1-2)

Point B – God’s love poured out on us through the Spirit. (vv. 3-5)

Point B1 – God’s love poured on us through the Son. (vv. 6-8)

Point A1 – Because of justification by faith, reconciliation. (vv. 9-11)

Sometimes, people interpret salvation as primarily a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship. Others want to emphasize only the \_\_\_\_\_. This passage brings together that salvation is both \_\_\_\_\_. It involves the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Paul is building on something quite profound that he had addressed earlier (2:15) and was very familiar to his Jewish readers. In the new covenant, the law is no longer an \_\_\_\_\_ code, but it is written on their \_\_\_\_\_. (Jeremiah 31:33)

This points to an important truth about God. The law is not just a set of rules external to God. But they are an expression of His \_\_\_\_\_. When we sin, in a sense, we do not just “break” the law. We “break” God’s heart. How does this change how we view sin?

### The rest of the chapter

Paul explains how the work of Christ can atone for the sins of many. This is one of the places that shows why our faith relies upon a literal interpretation of Scripture. If we believe that Jesus can and did atone for the sins of us all. Paul is essentially saying that since his readers believe that through one man (Adam) sin came into the world and affected humanity, they can believe that justification can come through the obedience of one man (Jesus). If we believe that the story of Adam and the Fall is a figure of speech, we must believe the same about the story of Jesus and the cross. This does not mean that we must believe in a young earth or an old earth or even the particular way that Adam’s sin affects us. These are open to considerable discussion among Christians. But when a historical view of Adam is lost, we lose the basis for a “this world” effect of Christ and His cross.