

## Romans: A Study on Reformation

### Lesson 11 “God’s Not Mad at You, He’s Madly In Love with You”

I. Introduction - Happy Resurrection Sunday! This always my favorite day of the year because we celebrate what Jesus did for us on the cross and how He brought us into relationship with Himself. Jesus made all things New at the cross!

A. Today what I want talk with you about is why Jesus did what He for us on the cross.

1. We are not going to focus on the what. We are going to focus on the why.
2. Most of you know the what (even non Christians). Jesus came to the earth 2,000 years ago to save us from our sins. He was crucified on a cross publicly on a hill overlooking the city where everyone saw it. He was then placed in a tomb guarded by Roman soldiers and 3 days later the tomb was empty. Jesus was raised from the dead! Both the Bible and secular history record these details so the case is airtight to someone who looks with an open heart.
3. I think understanding the why is the key to helping us open out heart to the truth of the gospel. Many people who choose not to believe don’t honestly disagree with the what. They have a problem with the way religion has portrayed the God of the What. He has been portrayed as a mean, angry, judgmental God.
  - a. Do you know where religion draws these opinions about God from? The Bible (a misunderstanding of the Bible).
  - b. What I want to do today is walk you through some scriptures to help you get a better understanding of your Father so you can connect with His why. **“God’s Not Mad at You, He’s Madly in Love with You!”**

4. Understanding the why will also help Christians establish their hearts in grace so they have a solid faith that is built on a sure foundation (end yo-yo Christianity).

II. God’s Not at You, He’s Madly In Love with You!"

A. **Luke 9:51-56 Misunderstanding God based on misunderstanding scripture.**

1. The Samaritans rejected Jesus and Jesus’s disciples wanted fry them. Where did they get this idea? From **2 Kings 1**. In the story, King Azariah fell through a lattice and sent for Baalzabub, the god of the King of Ekron to heal him. Elijah the prophet heard about this and rebuked him. The king then sent a troop of 50 soldiers to arrest Elijah and Elijah called down fire on them and they died. He did this again with a second group of soldiers. Finally, the third group cried out for mercy and they were spared.
2. Basically the disciples thought this was a good model to follow based on scripture. They didn’t understand the New Covenant that was coming in.
3. Jesus’s response. You don’t know what spirit you are of. The son of man didn’t come to destroy men’s lives but to save them.

## B. Romans 5:1-4

1. **Verse 1** - We now have peace with God leads to an important question. Was God at some point at war with me? If so, How can I trust a creator like that (one who wars with His creation?)
  - a. God was never at war with us, He was at war with that which was trying to kill us - sin. ex: chemotherapy to kill cancer. Sometimes in the Old Covenant God had to deal harshly with people, not because He hated us, but because He wanted to preserve a seed to bring Jesus through.
  - b. God was also at war with the devil and we were the prize.
  - c. God gave free will because He wanted people who served Him out of love, not requirement (like robots).
2. **Verse 2** - We access the grace of God (salvation, blessings) by faith not works.
3. **Verses 3-4** This revelation of grace and peace give us the capacity to endure tribulation. This helps me develop patience, patience helps me learn to endure, and all of this causes me to hope in the face of the impossible. ex: Abraham.

C. **Romans 5:5** This verse says the love of God has already been poured out in our heart. Someone in here is probably like, "I don't feel God's love for me." I know, that's because you aren't awake to it. My job is to wake you!

1. **Song of Solomon 2:7** don't awaken love means its already there. This means the love of God is in you, you just need to be awakened to it.
2. How do I wake someone? With words, touch, light, smell (incense), taste. Awakening comes from exposure to God, not striving.
3. If you are not a believer, the love of God isn't in you, but its all around you and He wants to touch you with His presence so you fall in love.
4. **Song of Solomon 4:9-10 NLT** God is overwhelmed by one look in our eyes.
5. Look at **Song of Solomon 4:1** *It starts with Behold, you are beautiful.* Who is the king talking to when He says to behold? He's talking to the bride. He wants her to behold or be held by her own beauty. Why? He knows if she can see herself like He sees her, she'll fall in love forever. He also knows if she can discover who she was born to be, she'll never want to be anyone else.

## D. Romans 5:6-11

1. **Verses 6-8** make the point that Jesus went first. He didn't wait for us to pursue Him, but He died for us when we were sinners not because we were somehow good in and of ourselves.
  - a. Our seeking of Him has always been a response to His pursuit.
  - b. Even when we persecuted Him on the cross, He said, "Father forgive them, they don't know what they are doing."

2. *Verses 9-10* Here's the awesome thing, much more once we get saved and having been made innocent, are we saved from wrath.
  - a. Most Christians think much less. They think we are saved by grace, but God expects us to now live holy and if we don't He might give us cancer to teach us.
  - b. Example of the drug addict who gets saved. We saved God forgives their sin and will accept them as they are, but if they come to church high the next week, many in the church will condemn them.
3. *Verse 11* We have received reconciliation - been put into agreement with Him.

### III. Conclusion - **Pray Ephesians 3:14-19**

- A. Call Up Prayer Team
- B. Pray Closing Prayer