

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Brothers and Sisters:

**Since we have been justified by faith,
we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out
into our hearts through the holy Spirit
that has been given to us.**

**For Christ, while we were still helpless,
yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.**

**Indeed, only with difficulty
does one die for a just person,
though perhaps for a good person
one might even find courage to die.**

**But God proves his love for us
in that while we were still sinners
Christ died for us.**

**How much more then,
since we are now justified by his blood,
will we be saved through him from the wrath.**

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**Indeed, if, while we were enemies,
we were reconciled to God
through the death of his Son,
how much more, once reconciled,
will we be saved by his life.**

**Not only that, but we also boast of God
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

The Word of the Lord