

ROMANS 5:3-5

•As to all the guilt of our past we are justified and at peace with God.

5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

•As to the present we stand in divine favor.

5:2a By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand,

•As to the future we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

5:2b and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Three Simple, blessed statements

Completes the past,
indicates the present,
shows the future,
as regards our *relationship toward God*

BUT THERE IS MORE

**But what about the difficulties
and tribulations which beset us
on our way to glory?**



Verse 3 "And not only so, but we also rejoice in our tribulations: knowing that tribulation works steadfastness;"

These verses would not be accepted in the church today.

Paul would not be let in the door of Holly Hills.

We wouldn't tolerate him because in these verses we would all be highly offended.

Paul never offers:

SYMPATHY

He offers:

Truth & Doctrine

**Does this mean we rejoice in the midst of
or in spite of tribulations?**

NO!

***Romans 5:11 “And not only so, but we also joy in
God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we
have now received the atonement.”***

Would we say that we rejoice in spite of God?

**Exact prepositional phrase. We do not
rejoice in spite of God. God is the object**

**Not in the middle of tribulations
BUT**

WE ARE GLAD THAT WE HAVE THEM

The way Paul equips us is by:

1. Teaching the Word
2. Not making allowances for feeling
3. Knowledge makes the joy of tribulation rational
4. Impossible for an unbeliever to understand

Let's Look at some Words

TRIBULATION

θλίψειςιν, thlipsesin ***pressure from the outside***
(literal or figurative) affliction, anguish, burdened,
persecution, tribulation, trouble. Includes anything
hostile. Can be physical, mental or spiritual

WORKS or PRODUCES

κατεργάζομαι, katergazomai to work fully, i.e.
accomplish; by implication to finish, fashion :- cause,
do (deed), perform, work (out)

STEADFASTNESS

ὑπομονή, hupomonē endurance, constancy
patience, patient continuance (waiting)

TRIBULATIONS DESCRIBED IN SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

“Pressed on every side,
perplexed,
pursued,
smitten down”;
“in afflictions,
in necessities,
in distresses,
in stripes,
in imprisonments,
in tumults,
in labors,
in watchings,
in fastings;
by evil report, . . .
as chastened,
and not killed;
as sorrowful

Romans 8:35

tribulation,
or distress,
or persecution,
or famine,
or nakedness,
or peril,
or sword?

PRINCIPLE

- God brings us into tribulations, and that of all kinds
- God gives us the knowledge that these tribulations will result in steadfastness, in faith and patient endurance; of having been brought by grace through the trials
- This process gives us a sense of Divine approval we did not before have; and which is only found in those who have been brought through trials, by God's all-sufficient grace.

WHAT DO WE DISCOVER?

- **There is a Divine process.**
- **Pressure is good growing soil.**
- **We know what it is designed to workout.**
- **We are rejoicing**

**Verse 4b. And patience, experience;
and experience, hope:**

More Words

δοκιμή, dokimē

Experience, properly acceptable. approved, tried.
proven out by trial. Tried character

ἐλπίς, elpis

Hope. from a primary ἐλπω, elpo
(to anticipate, usually with pleasure);
expectation or confidence, hope.

DO WE SEE THE PRINCIPLES?

- In these things too we rejoice
- The secret of our ability to rejoice in that which naturally is so distasteful to us, is that we know what it is designed to work.
- Tribulations are not in themselves pleasant but grievous, yet they help to set in motion a whole sequence of things which are most excellent and blessed – patience, tried character, hope.
- Instead of being against us they are turned into a source of profit.
- A major sign of maturity... How do pressures affect us?

What Does HOPE Mean?

Human Hope:

1. Is a wish
2. Has to do with the unseen in the future, and is doubtful in anticipation.
3. Every human hope is capable of bringing us disappointment
4. Depends upon something other than the Word of God

BIBLICAL HOPE:

1. Is a certainty
2. Has to do with a future guaranteed by God in His Word
3. There is absolutely no disappointment
4. Is increased by the process of tribulation bringing about perseverance, and perseverance produces the character of the Lord Jesus in us, which leads us into this unshakable hope

There is **no thought** of mere wishing or doubtful anticipation in this “hope,” of course.

It is a hope “*sure and steadfast*” (Heb. 6:19); otherwise it would give no one the incentive to be unashamed. “*Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech*” (2 Cor. 3:12).

There is **no reason** to be ashamed or afraid when we know the glory that is to be revealed.

Such hope feeds courage.

Verse 5: And hope makes not **ashamed**;
because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.

What would we be ashamed about?

Some more words

Ashamed or Disappointed

καταισχύνω, **kataischuno**

from κατα, kata and αισχυνομαι, aischunomai;

to shame down, disgrace or (by implication)
put to the blush : - confound, dishonor, shame

Because

because gives the reason (is the linking word) that our hope will not be disappointed.

BECAUSE

“the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.”

TWO GIFTS

Because of two gifts, hope makes us not ashamed.

1. GOD LOVES US

2. The Holy Spirit Lives In Us

Hope is objective, but there is also a subjective power that occupies our hearts with such hope

What is the subjective Power?

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Without the power of the Spirit of God we should be as weak as water

LAST WORDS

LOVE

ἀγάπη, agapē

The love of God that is without cause.
Finds its object of extremely high value

HAS BEEN POURED OUT

ἐκκέχυται, ekkechutai

To gush out, pour out Indicative, Perfect, Passive

WHAT IS THE POWER THAT HE GIVES?

LOVE OF GOD

Love does not occupy us with self or selfish feelings:

As Agape operates in us, we are not anxious as to how people regard us: we think of their welfare. There is no thought of shame or disappointment