

ROM 209 - Rejoice Through & Beyond Suffering- Rom 5:1-11

Into every Christian Life - Comes Trials & Suffering

last week - from Pastor Jeff - we learned about  
the "Benefits of Suffering" (very good msg - get it)

Well, these 2 msg's - are going to Go Together

This week - We're going to look at

Rejoicing THRU our Suffering

Rejoicing BEYOND our Suffering

Many of us - right now - are going thru trials in our lives  
some of us w/ trials pressing in from every direction

& it's pretty easy for those trials to get us discouraged,  
even to - Take Us Out

If that's you today - if you're "Holding On" in a Storm

then God wants to give you - some Serious Hope from His Word

Your God - who Loves you so much - Wants you to be able  
to Rejoice THRU & BEYOND the suffering you face today

He wants to Give you Joy THRU & BEYOND your Trials

Let's Pray

The **Apostle Paul's** middle name may have well been "**suffering**" because *that's what he found* wherever he went

**From the time he made Jesus Christ his Lord –Paul was;**

- Put to hard labor
- Beaten
- Imprisoned
- Given 39 lashes – 5 times
- Shipwrecked 3 times
- & Stoned & Left for dead

**Yet his rejoicing** seemed to *constantly increase*  
In every trial – In every tribulation

And we can have that same supernatural **Rejoicing**  
**THRU** & even **BEYOND** our *trials & tribulations*

**That** is what **God** wants *you to know* today

**God wants** to give you a *confident expectation*, a *guarantee*

**a confidence** that **doesn't** come from within *you*  
but a **confidence** that comes *from God to you*

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**In our passage** today - Paul begins to "**turn a corner**" in Romans

He's **not** so much **Proving his Point** (*like the previous 4 Ch's*)

but **instead** - today he *begins to address*  
**Living The Christian LIFE**

**In general - there are THREE Phases of the Christian Life;**

- 1) **Justification** - being declared righteous  
(by faith - at salvation)
- 2) **Sanctification** - the transformation of your earthly life  
(living the Christian Life)
- 3) **Glorification** - the final eternal transformation  
(heaven)

In **Rom Ch 5** - Paul transitions from **Justification** (*where we've been*)  
to **Sanctification** (*where we're going*)

**AND** - **One Clear Sign** of that is;

**Here in Ch 5** - Paul **switches** his vocabulary  
to using the "**First Person Plural**" - **WE**

**For the 1<sup>st</sup> time in Romans - Paul is now saying WE;**

since **WE** have been justified  
**WE** have peace with God  
**WE** have access into God's Grace  
**WE** rejoice in hope  
**WE** rejoice in suffering  
God's Love has been poured into **OUR** hearts  
His Holy Spirit has been given to **US**  
While **WE** were still sinners  
Christ died for **US**  
**WE** were reconciled  
**WE** are saved  
**WE** shall REJOICE

**22 TIMES** - Paul says **WE** - **OUR** - **US** . . . 22 times in 11 Vs's

Paul's no longer *Proving his Point*  
of the great truth of *Justification by Faith Alone*

He's now drawing us INTO the Great Rejoicing  
we have IN *Jesus Christ* & BY the *Holy Spirit*

Rejoicing designed to *be experienced* THRU - & BEYOND  
our Trials & Suffering

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### Rom 5:1 - ESV

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

The THEREFORE ties these truths of Sanctification  
to the *Foundation Truths* of Justification we've just gone thru

THEREFORE - *because of the Previous Truths of Justification*

SINCE *we have been justified by faith*

We HAVE - WE OWN, POSSESS - *Peace WITH God*  
*through our Lord Jesus Christ*

The word WITH (in 'peace with God') - means LIT - FACING

Being *Justified by Faith* - We have Peace - *when we are "Facing God"*

Because of the *Righteousness* of Jesus Christ  
we stand Guiltless - & Un-condemned before God

That is the beginning - of our being able to Rejoice  
NO MATTER what goes on in this life

& so we've got to *get a hold* of this

## Col 1:22 - NLT

**22 Yet now he (God) has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he (God) has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault.**

**THAT** - is Justification - & it's the beginning of True Rejoicing  
& we've got to Cling to this knowledge - & Stand Firm in it

Just look at the next Vs. in Col Ch 1

## Col 1:23 - NLT [show with v.22]

**23 But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. . .**

The beginning of ALL Rejoicing  
is the fact that - God has Reconciled us to Himself

& THAT is how Paul's going to END out text today too

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But Not only is Jesus Christ our Peace WITH God  
He is also our Guaranteed ACCESS - into God's Grace

## Rom 5:2 - ESV

**2 Through him [Jesus Christ] we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.**

Thru Him (Jesus) we have Access  
into the Incredible Grace of God

**"ACCESS"** - comes from two words meaning - **"To Bring Facing"**  
the picture is of a **formal escort** into the presence of royalty

Like **that young boy** who was crying outside **Buckingham Palace**  
**because** the guards had **refused** to let him see the Queen

But then, **Prince Charles** heard the boy **crying**  
& he **took him** by the hand & said

**"come with me, I will give you full access to the Queen"**

& **at that point** - there was **nothing** that would stop that boy  
from **getting an audience** w/ the Queen

with **Prince Charles** going before him,  
there was an **Abundance of Grace**  
just waiting for him in the **Throne Room**

**GRACE** - is God's unlimited, unmerited, underserved favor  
that He **pours out** - onto us

**WHY ??**

Because **Jesus Christ** has walked us  
into the Throne Room of Grace

& we **STAND** before God - "**In Christ**"  
**worthy** to receive all of God's Grace to be poured out on us

**Heb 4:16 - ESV**

***16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.***

**THAT** - is the **Grace** in which we **STAND**

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**So now**

- #1) **We can Rejoice** because we have **Peace** with God  
thru Jesus Christ
- #2) **We can Rejoice** because we have full **Escorted Access**  
into the **Throne Room** of God's Grace - thru Jesus Christ

**& then - at the END of V.2 we read;**

*and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

**But look at it in the NLT (end of V.2)**

*2 . . . and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing  
God's glory.*

We're talking about **REJOICING**  
**THRU & BEYOND** our **Trials** & **Suffering**

So **let me give you** - - the **#3 Reason**  
for some **Serious Rejoicing**;

*we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory*

**I know** what you may be **experiencing** *right now*  
may be **Excruciatingly Difficult** - maybe **Crushing** beyond belief

**But I need you to KNOW;**

- #1) You have **Peace** With God, *thru Jesus Christ*
- #2) You receive God's Unlimited **Grace**, *thru Jesus Christ*
- #3) You can **confidently & joyfully** look forward  
to sharing **God's Glory**, *thru Jesus Christ*

Now **THAT** is **THREE** very good reasons  
to start **Rejoicing** **THRU & BEYOND** your **Suffering**

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But maybe you'd say;

"OK, I can see - Rejoicing **BEYOND** by Trials . . .

(MEANING - SEEING BEYOND THEM TO A TIME OF REJOICING)

But what do you mean by - Rejoicing **THRU** my Trials ?"

**Well** - what I actually mean is - Rejoicing **IN THE MIDST**  
of your Trials - **WHILE** you're actually going **THRU** them !

**Rom 5:3(A) - ESV**

*3 More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, . . .*

*Oh come on now! - Surely you can't be serious ??*

*(I am serious, and please don't call me Shirley)*

We have been **Promised By God**  
that **suffering** is a natural occurrence in this Life

But **Please Listen** - what Paul is about to say  
is what every Christian MUST **Learn**

Paul is **about to say** - we, as Christians  
**Rejoice IN** our sufferings,

**BECAUSE** of the beneficial effect - they have on our Life w/ Christ

**Paul's** about to say - that **our Sufferings** are **TOOLS**  
that are **used** to develop our Confidence in God

& because of that **Beneficial Effect** of our Suffering,

We can **Rejoice THRU** our sufferings (While in them)  
**Looking forward** to Life **BEYOND** our sufferings (*Thru & Beyond*)

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OK - so How Does it Work ?

### Rom 5:3-4 - ESV

***3 More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,  
4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,***

Let's first look at the word "**PRODUCES**"  
it means to achieve or to accomplish something

& then - see that last word that our Suffering produces - - **HOPE**

Greek word for 'hope' is "el-pece"

But Biblical hope is **NOT** - "optimistic outlook" or "wishful thinking"

This word means;

**a 'confident expectation' based on 'solid certainty'**

Biblical HOPE is;

**a 'confident expectation' based on 'solid certainty'**

& guys - what you & I need

when we're going thru a time of Suffering

is - a 'confident expectation' based on 'solid certainty'

So - How do we get it ?

*well that's the part that's kinda hard for us to accept*

Because the Bible says (right here)

that this hope comes - **THRU** Suffering

**Here are the steps:**

***suffering produces endurance** (perseverance),  
**endurance produces character** (a refining of who we are),  
**character produces hope** (confident expectation)*

**Paraphrase using definitions:**

“We rejoice that God puts us under pressure, to build up our endurance, in order to refine us, removing the dross & impurities, so that we might have a confident expectation based on solid certainty”

**My second favorite saying:**

“God is not as interested in making our circumstances right, as He is in using our circumstances to make us right!”

**Very Often** - God uses **Suffering** (LIT - Pressure)

As **the TOOL** to create true spiritual maturity  
& true intimate relationship with Him

**Ask the great heroes of the Bible:**

- **Abraham** will tell you about Mt Moriah & a glistening knife
- **Jacob** will tell you about a wrestling match & a permanent limp
- **Joseph** will tell you about a dungeon & false accusations
- **David** will sing you the Psalms written in the blackest nights of life
- **Peter** will speak of the pain of his own denial,
- **John** of the loneliness of the isle of Patmos
- & if you dare, **Jesus** will tell you of the **Path to the cross**

**The path** to God’s deepest blessings

is often **Directly thru** the almost **unbearable pressure** of suffering

**& when** we are under that **Divine Refining** of Suffering;

**If** we will **turn our hearts TOWARD God**  
**Rejoicing THRU & BEYOND** our suffering

**& I Promise** you - **His Grace** WILL BE **Sufficient** for your Need

**& only then** will we *begin to comprehend*  
the *exceeding greatness* of His **Power**  
& the *unlimited flow* of His **Grace**

**& then** we will be able to say with Paul in **Rom 8:18**

### **Rom 8:18 - ESV**

***18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.***

**But 1<sup>st</sup>** - We must **allow** the Master's **perfect work**  
**to bring** the *hope* He desires to *form in our lives*

**Panic, anxiety, & negativity** overcome me  
when **I lose** that *confident expectation* that God is with me,

when **I lose** that *confidence* - That my *Trials* are working in me  
a **far more exceeding weight** of *Glory*

### **2Cor 4:17-18 - NLT**

***17 For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!***

***18 So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.***

So what's our job ??

to FIX OUR GAZE - *on the things that cannot be seen*

Which are the Eternal Benefits  
that our Suffering is PRODUCING In Us

*For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.*

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Why do we lose hope?

Most often - because we are Fixing our Gaze ONLY  
on the things that CAN be seen - Our Trials, Difficulties, Suffering

But God says those things will soon be gone

But the Benefits of what He is producing THRU our suffering  
THOSE things will last forever !!

We must allow God to use the TOOLS of this life  
to Produce in us - ENDURANCE (*perseverance*) - So that  
Endurance can produce in us CHARACTER - so that  
Character can produce in us HOPE

which is a '*confident expectation*' based on '*solid certainty*'

James says the same thing in Jas 1:2-4  
(*Jeff used this Last Wk*)

Jas 1:2-4 - NLT → →

## **Jas 1:2-4 - NLT**

***2 Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.***

***3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.***

***4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.***

**If we will CONSIDER your Trials as  
an Opportunity to **KNOW GOD** - &  
an Opportunity to GROW in CHRIST**

Then the "**TOOLS**" of this life  
will have their perfecting work in us ;

**producing** in us - that *confident expectation* that God is **AT WORK**  
***For our good - In the Midst of your Suffering***

**& IN THAT - YOU CAN REJOICE**

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**SO -**

**#1)** You have **Peace** With God, *thru Jesus Christ*

**#2)** You receive God's Unlimited **Grace**, *thru Jesus Christ*

**#3)** You are going to share **God's Glory**, *thru Jesus Christ*

**#4)** You can rejoice in the **Eternal Good**

that God wants to bring **THRU** your suffering

**& Now - in ROM 5:5**

we have the **End Result** of this entire process

## **Rom 5:5 - From The NLT**

***5 And this hope (confidence) will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.***

This **Hope** - This **Confidence** - will **NEVER** disappoint us because **we know** how dearly **God loves us** - - (do you see it?)

***THIS Hope*** - That comes **THRU** our **suffering**  
**WILL NOT** lead to disappointment,

***For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love***

**This is** the **First** real **Mention** of the **Holy Spirit** in Romans

**& He** is mentioned **As a Guarantee** -  
of **the Hope** (that comes thru suffering) **never disappointing** us

**WHY ?** - ***Because we know how dearly God loves us !***

**WHY ?** - ***Because He has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love***

**God's Agape Love - poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit,**

Is our **Guarantee**  
that the **HOPE** that comes **thru our Suffering**  
will **never** disappoint us

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Now - since **God knew** that His **Agape Love**  
would be **more** than we **could grasp**

He has **Paul explain it** for us in the **following verses**

Vs. 6-8 is actually a **Demonstration** of God's Agape Love

to give us the **confidence** that God is working  
**THRU** our Suffering - FOR our GOOD

### **Rom 5:6-8 - ESV**

***6 For while we were still weak (NLT = utterly helpless), at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.***

***7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—***

***8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.***

**Paul** has well convinced us - that we have **nothing** to offer God  
**no redeeming qualities** at all

**Yet** Christ still **died** for us - in our place  
**so that** we could be Declared Righteous before God

**The REASON** Christ died for us while we were still sinners  
is God's Agape Love

& **Because** God's Agape Love is totally unmerited  
& not dependent on us in any way,

**Since** it is wholly based on God's Character Alone  
**THEN IT CAN NEVER CHANGE**

& **THAT** is why we can have great **Hope** & even **Rejoicing**  
**THRU** & **BEYOND** - our Suffering

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Now Paul is going to **drive his point home** with an argument style the **rabbis** called "light & heavy"

We call these "**If – Then**" statements

Paul **uses two** of these "**IF - THEN**" statements one in **v.9**, another in **v.10**

### **Rom 5:9 - ESV**

**9** ***Since**, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, (then) **much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.***

**Paul's point** is to drive home the **Guaranteed - Absolutely Solid Never changing - Love of God** toward us

& so **he says**,

**SINCE** we have been ***Justified*** by the blood of Christ ***when*** we were His ***enemies***

**THEN** - How ***much more*** will we be ***saved*** from the wrath of God, ***now that*** we have been made righteous before God (in Christ)

& then **Paul turns around** & says the **same thing** again - ***For Impact***

### **Rom 5:10 - ESV**

**10** ***For if** (SINCE) ***while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son***, (THEN) ***much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.****

**Same** argument - For **Impact**



**IF** while we were **ENEMIES**  
we were Reconciled to God by the **death** of His own Son

**THEN** how much more, now that we ARE Reconciled,  
shall we be **saved** by His life ?

God is convincing you that  
He is **WITH YOU** in your suffering  
He is **AT WORK** in your suffering  
He will **NEVER** Leave you - nor Forsake you

He's **proven Himself** to you  
by Reconciling you to Himself - **when** you were His **enemy**

**How much more** - now that you are His child  
**will He** be sure to carry you thru your **suffering** ?

We're talking about **Rejoicing THRU & BEYOND** our **Suffering**

& **in V. 11** - it's like Paul says **But really**  
More than Rejoicing Thru & Beyond our Suffering,

**More than** focusing on our Trials at all . . . **just look at V.11**

## **Rom 5:11 - ESV**

***11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.***

**It's Great to Rejoice THRU & BEYOND our suffering**

**But really, there's a day coming very soon  
when you & I are going to be Rejoicing**

in **ONE THING** - & **ONE THING Alone** - & that is;

That we have been **Reconciled to God** thru *faith in Jesus Christ*

& when **THAT** day comes - I promise you

The **Full & Eternal Rejoicing** - is really going to **begin** - - **AMEN?**

**Let's Pray**