

Redeemer Christian Church

Faith Wrought in Fire

Pastor Jeremy | September 27, 2026

ROMANS 5:1–5 *NASB95*

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

ROMANS 5:1–5 *NASB95*

³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; ⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Where Romans 5 stands in the letter

“Therefore, having been justified by faith...”

In chapters 1–4 Paul shows that all have sinned and that righteousness comes by faith, as it did for Abraham. Chapter 5 opens with “therefore” and asks what life looks like for people who have been declared right with God.

w. 1–5

Peace with God and a hope that holds under pressure

w. 6–11

God’s love proven at the cross, while we were still enemies

w. 12–21

Two representatives, Adam and Christ, and grace that outruns sin

What justification gives: verses 1–2

Peace

“we have peace with God”

The war is over. Our standing with God is settled, not fragile.

Access

“we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand”

We are brought into God’s presence and kept standing there by grace.

Hope

“we exult in hope of the glory of of God.”

A future so certain that we can celebrate it now.

VERSE 3 • THE SURPRISING TURN

“And not only this, but we also exult
in our tribulations”

Paul uses the same word for rejoicing in the hope of glory (v. 2) and rejoicing in tribulation (v. 3). The (v. 3). The Greek *thlipsis* pictures pressure, like grapes crushed in a press. Believers do not merely survive it; they can glory in it.

Suffering sets off a chain: verses 3–4



“knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope”

Why Paul calls suffering good

It is productive, not pointless

The term “brings about” means suffering accomplishes something. Nothing in the believer’s pain is wasted.

It reveals what is real

Trial proves faith genuine, as fire proves metal. See also James 1:2–4 and 1 Peter 1:6–7.

It grows hope instead of eroding it

For the believer the chain runs toward hope, not despair. Pressure presses us forward toward glory.

*Paul does not celebrate pain for its own sake.
He rejoices in what God does through it.*

JAMES 1:2–4 *NASB95*

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

1 PETER 1:6-9 *NASB95*

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷ so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

1 PETER 1:6–9 *NASB95*

⁸ and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

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A hope that will not disappoint

“and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

- Romans 5:5

“Hope does not disappoint” means this hope will never leave us embarrassed for having trusted it.

Its ground is not our endurance but God’s love, poured out like a flood by the Spirit.

Suffering happens inside God’s love, we see it pictured most clearly at the cross

Love that came at our worst: verses 6–11

v. 6

Without strength

v. 6

Ungodly

v. 8

Sinners

v. 10

Enemies

“For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.”

Paul’s “much more” argument: if God loved us as enemies, how much more will he keep us now as his reconciled children? That is why suffering can never mean abandonment.

Two men, two outcomes: verses 12–21

	Adam	Christ
One act	Disobedience	Obedience
What reigns	Sin and death	Grace, through righteousness
Result for many	Condemnation	Justification and eternal life

“but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more” (v. 20)

Living Romans 5 in seasons of suffering

Name the pressure

Where are you under tribulation right now? Bring it honestly before God.

Look for the process

What endurance or character might God be forming in you through it?

Rest on the proof

When you fear God has left you, you, return to the cross (v. 8).

“much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life..” (v. 10)