

The Recipe For Hope

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Romans 5:1-8 ¹Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us. ⁶For at just the right time, while we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God proves His love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A.** Our salvation through faith in Jesus Christ justifies our account that we owe to a perfectly righteous God. V. 1
- B.** Our salvation, therefore, brings peace between us and God. V. 1
- C.** The promise of our salvation is our basis for hope. V. 2
- D.** Suffering, when endured while trusting God to hold up His end, produces perseverance in us. V. 3
- E.** Perseverance, when you continue to trust God's word and His character, produces His character in us. We begin to change. V. 4
- F.** Character, when you continue to become who God has declared you to be, produces hope. V. 4
- G.** Hope, when continually guided by the Holy Spirit, fills our heart with love for ourselves, others and God. V. 5
- H.** Christ showed us the ultimate love by dying for us when we were still enemies of God. V. 6-8

II. What can we learn from these truths?

- A.** Since we have peace with God we need to claim the peace of God that He has for us.
- B.** Embrace hard times. These produce great things in us.
- C.** Renew your hope today. God is still in charge and you are His child.
- D.** Ask God to give you love for those whom you struggle with most.

Philippians 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be apparent to all. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (BSB)