

Romans 5:3-8

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 5:3 Rejoicing in suffering is a remarkable concept, but the attitude is found throughout the New Testament (Matthew 5:4, 10–12; Acts 5:41, 14:22; 2 Corinthians 12:9–10; 2 Thessalonians 1:5; 1 Peter 4:13–14).
- 2) 5:3 One of the hard promises found in the Bible is that those faithful to Jesus can be certain to be under some degree of pressure from Satan (2 Timothy 3:12).
- 3) 5:3 Suffering is not referring to minor inconveniences or to the consequences for bad life choices. It is speaking of those who walk with Jesus, doing their best to live godly lives, and as a result experience oppression and persecution.
- 4) Persecution brings blessing (Matthew 5:10–12).
Persecution for Christ's sake in this life is a guarantee of future glory (2 Corinthians 4:17).
Persecution is evidence we are living Christ-like lives (John 15:20).
Persecution produces spiritual benefits (Romans 5:3-4, James 1:12).
- 5) 5:5 The Holy Spirit is at work helping us grasp the reality of being encircled by the love of God.
- 6) 5:6 Our salvation depends not on our loveliness, but on the reliability of the love of God.
- 7) 5:6 There is nothing impulsive, hurried, or delayed about God's actions.
- 8) 5:7 God did not wait until we performed enough to merit His love (which, of course, no one ever could). Christ died for us while we cared nothing for His attention.
- 9) 5:7 Love is the voluntary action of placing the welfare of others ahead of one's own.

10) 5:8 The cross took place in the past, but continues to show forth the amazing love of God in the present.

11) 5:8 Jesus' action is God's action, Jesus' love is God's love.

12) 5:8 Even while we are still hopelessly entangled in sin, the God who hates everything about sin loves the sinner.

GREEK WORDS

Thlipsis (thlip'-sis)—pressure :- afflicted (-tion), anguish, burdened, persecution, trouble

Hupomonē—perseverance; carries the idea of endurance, the ability to continue working in the face of great obstacles

Dokimē—proven character; proof

Ekchunnō—to pour out, to bestow :- gushed

Synistaō (soon-is-tah'-o)—to set together, to introduce (favorably), or to exhibit

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