

REJOICING IN HOPE OF THE GLORY OF GOD

Romans 5:1-5

A Theology of Rejoicing

What Does “Rejoice” Mean?

- ❑ “To feel or show great joy” according to the Oxford American Dictionary.
- ❑ Overwhelming and overflowing happiness.
- ❑ What examples can you think of?

Are We Commanded To Rejoice?

- ❑ Yes and no—we are told to rejoice in the right things rather than the wrong ones. It is assumed you will rejoice over something. What will you rejoice over?
- ❑ *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*
- ❑ *Luke 10:17-24*
- ❑ *Romans 12:9-15*
- ❑ *Philippians 1:3*

Why Is This So Important?

- ❑ How important to you is Christ?
- ❑ How important to you is being with God?
- ❑ Our emotions will lead us astray if they are not turned the right way.

Why Are We Able to Rejoice?

- ❑ The text has been leading us along, bringing us to this point.
- ❑ We deserve God’s perfect wrath, and yet we do not receive it. *Romans 1:18-3:20*
- ❑ Christ has taken our place, if we have turned to Him in faith. We have been placed into grace because Jesus died on the cross. *Romans 3:21-5:2*

Rejoicing In...

Hope of the Glory of God

- ❑ Do you rejoice in things you cannot see right now? This is faith. Hoping in what God has promised is putting your faith in Him and believing that He will do what He has said.
- ❑ Looking forward to seeing God’s glory completely. Now we only see hints. *1 Corinthians 13:12*
- ❑ Looking forward to being changed ourselves. *Romans 8:18-25*

Our Sufferings

- ❑ How can we have this perspective?
- ❑ Why do we suffer? *Romans 8:26-30*

So What?

What Am I To Do If I Don’t Naturally Rejoice?

- ❑ Recognize that you do rejoice over certain things already. Do you know what they are?
- ❑ Pray! Ask God to give you greater joy and excitement for Him and His promises.
- ❑ Meditate on the cross and your Lord.
- ❑ Challenge the idols you have let get in the way. Worldliness kills rejoicing in the right things.
- ❑ Make sure you are in the faith.