

ROMANS SERIES ELEVEN
FINDING FOUNDATIONS FOR CONTENTMENT AND JOY
Dr. Roger Barrier
Romans 5:1-11; Phil. 4:10-13; I Peter 1:6-7

PHILIPPIANS

Philippians was written by Paul from Rome in 64 AD to the church at Philippi, Greece near the end of his life.

Philippians is the Bible book of Joy and Rejoicing.

Paul revealed in Philippians 4:10-13 the pinnacle of life: contentment in every situation.

ROMANS 5:1-11

Romans was written by Paul in 57 AD from Corinth, Greece to the church in Rome, Italy in order to lay out the theological underpinnings of Christianity.

Paul lays down in Romans 5:1-11 the foundation for rejoicing and contentment: rejoicing in the hope of glory; rejoicing in sufferings; rejoicing in God through Jesus Christ.

HOW FAR ALONG ARE YOU IN YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY?

Romans 5:1-11 overviews the stages of the Christian life. Romans 5:1-2 is rejoicing in hope; Romans 5:3 is rejoicing in sufferings; Romans 5:11 is rejoicing in God. Spiritual children rejoice in the hope of a glorified life. Spiritual young men and women are able to rejoice in their sufferings. Spiritual mothers and fathers rejoice in God.

REJOICING IN THE HOPE OF GLORY

2 Corinthians 3:18: *And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*

The word, "hope," has to do with certainty. Our hope of glory is reality—not virtual reality.

Peace with God: There is a war going on. The war brought to an end by the shed blood of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:5-7). We don't come to God as the victor to the vanquished. We come as conquered to conqueror. But when we come, we find God is all smiles.

Access: Because we have peace we have access (John 14:6; 10:1; Hebrews 10:19-22).

REJOICING IN SUFFERINGS

Understanding the purpose of suffering is the only way to have the right attitude.

Peter read Paul's letter and wrote out in 1 Peter 1:1-18 a practical application of Paul's theological ideology. The purpose of suffering is to mold us to look more like Christ, to test just how genuine is our faith and to bring glory to God.

REJOICING IN AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IN CHRIST

Through Jesus Christ we can develop an ongoing intimacy with God Himself.

Only reconciliation with God allows us to reconcile all of our other relationships.