

Study questions for Romans 5:3-11 sermon

1. Read Romans 5:1-5. It is written to any who have put their faith in Christ alone for salvation. What are the past tense verbs in 5:1-2? What do they tell us God has already done for us through faith in Christ? According to the last sentence of 5:2 what effect should these things have on us?
2. What does 5:3 say we also exult in? How does this differ from the way you normally respond to tribulations (the word meant intense pressure, suffering with no relief)?
3. Describe wrong ways Christians can deal with trials. What effects do these wrong responses to trials cause in their life? Their relationships? Why?
4. God wants us to respond to trials with faith and confidence in His provisions and care for us. What does 1 Peter 5:7 say about this? What does 1 Peter 5:8 reveal will happen if we don't trust God in our trials?
5. 5:3 indicates the certainty of trials for the Christian. What does Jesus say about this in the following verses: Matthew 5:10-12 and John 16:33? Why do you think He wanted us to know this? What difference would it make if you didn't know this?
6. NOTE: TV preachers are telling millions that God's plan for their life is health and prosperity. What effect does this have on the listeners? Why would this teaching ultimately lead them away from Christ? Jesus gave a parable about this reality in Mark 4:14-19 (v. 19 describes the people who have a wrong understanding of trials in their life)
7. What does Romans 5:3-4 reveal that tribulation produces when we respond trusting Christ? Why would this cause us to exult in our trials?
8. What does 5:5 say about why our hope in Christ does not disappoint? (Note: "hope" in the Bible is not wishing but the confident full assurance of future promises of God being realized). When did the believer in Christ have God's love poured out? Where? By what means? What does this tell us about one way God assures His children of His faithfulness?
9. What does Romans 5:6-10 reveal about God's love for those who believe in Christ?
 - a. At what time did God display His love?
 - b. In condition were we when He loved us?
 - c. How is God's love different from human love in 5:7-8? How does Jesus describe this difference in Matthew 5:43-44?

- d. How did God demonstrate (prove, publicly show without a doubt) His love for us? In 5:8
 - e. What does God want us to see are the implications of this kind for us in 5:9-10?
10. Why do you think God wanted to tell us this about His love for us? What difference does it make knowing this when we are suffering? Would it make any difference if we didn't know this about God's love?
11. Of the following types of wrong responses to trials, which ones at times are you most prone to being tempted? How does it affect you and your life when you respond wrongly?
- a. Disappointed in God.
 - b. Anxious, fearful.
 - c. Impulsive.
 - d. Grumbling.
12. What has God shown you through Romans 5:3-10 that has helped you to face suffering or trials?