

Title: We Boast In God

Passage: Romans 5:3-11

Summary:

I. Boast in the afflictions with King Jesus (v.3-8)

II. Boast in the ascension of King Jesus (v.9-10)

III. Boast in the God Almighty through King Jesus (v. 11)

Key Truths:

- Confidence in the future gives us convictions in the present. Certainty in the future makes us diligence in the present.
- Perseverance is the only quality that God crowns. God crowns faith, hope, and love that perseveres. This character quality is non-existent without pain.
- The fire of affliction proves that we have real faith, which is a gift from God. God keeps us believing through trials and afflictions.
- Jesus does different things for you as you need them. Jesus never stops interceding for us.
- God's compassion is so much greater than we can ever comprehend or think . How much of the universe can you see? If it was like the ocean, you could only see a cup.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
 - What keeps us from being full of joy, and hope in the middle of difficult circumstances?
 - How can suffering produce positive rather than negative results?
 - How should our hope in Christ affect our attitude toward our current circumstances or goals?
 - What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?
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Passage:

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that

suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

EXPOSITION

Introduction

During times of trial, there is a uniting power in our afflictions, which God is using in our lives for good. It is when the vine clings to the elm (Richard Sibbs)

Overview

- I. Boast in the afflictions with King Jesus (v.3-8)
- II. Boast in the ascension of King Jesus (v.9-10)
- III. Boast in the God Almighty through King Jesus (v. 11)

BOAST IN THE AFFLICTIONS WITH KING JESUS. (v.3-8)

Romans 5:3

“And not only this, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction brings about perseverance;”

And not only this

- relates to the prior verse

Romans 5:2

through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

What do we boast?

- Boast = express with a high degree of confidence.
- Basis: in the certain hope in the glory of God.
 - Certainty of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

but we also boast in our afflictions

- Confidence in the future gives us convictions in the present
- Certainty in the future makes us diligent in the present.

Romans 8:17

and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 12:12

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

1 Thessalonians 3:3

that no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this.

Ephesians 3:13

So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

How do we boast in our afflictions?

Romans 5:3-4

knowing that affliction brings about-perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

Knowing

- "having become acquainted with through experience"

- Discovering what is tried and true.

affliction brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

Acts 14:22

strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,

Romans 8:37

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

affliction brings about perseverance

- perseverance = long suffering = endurance
- Perseverance is the only quality that God crowns.
 - God crowns faith, hope, and love that perseveres.
- This quality is non-existent without pain.

and perseverance, proven character;

- proven character = "genuineness" (one word)
- The fire of affliction proves that we have real faith, which is a gift from God.
 - God keeps us believing through trials and afflictions.
 - It proves that we are really trusting Him.

1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

James 1:2-4

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2 Corinthians 13:4-6

For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God. Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test! I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test.

- When do we test and examine whether we are in the faith?
- Measure not God's favor by your feelings.

and proven character, hope;

- Through character, we have hope in Christ.

Romans 5:5

and hope does not put to shame, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

and hope does not put to shame

- In Christ, you will never be embarrassed.
- Hope in Christ will never disappoint.

because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

- Why our hope never disappoints.
- We were given the Holy Spirit through conversion.
- Holy Spirit is the source of infinite love from God.

Romans 8:16

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

- the love of God has been poured out into our very hearts.
- Through the Spirit, we understand more of the love of God.

Romans 8:35-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- in light of the depth of the love of God, we are able to boast in Him!
- We can see beyond our afflictions to what God is doing.

Romans 5:6

"For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly."

For while we were still weak,

- Weak = no strength whatsoever
 - We were powerless and wicked
- not when we are strong do we boast.
- Question: Do you know that you were godless when God saved you?
 - Christ died only for the ungodly.

Romans 5:7–8

"For one will hardly die for a righteous man, though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

- Love is the greatest when it cost the most of the Lover to one who deserves it the least.
 - This makes the love of God so unique.
 - Greatest cost to the vilest offenders.
- Song: "My Worth is Not in What I Own (At the Cross)"
(<https://www.gettymusic.com/myworth>)

II. BOAST IN THE ASCENSION OF KING JESUS (v.9-10)

Romans 5:9-10

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

- Jesus ascended to heaven

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood

- Much more = “poly” (many) = Taking anything to a greater degree
- There is more after Jesus died for us?
 - Much more!

we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Romans 8:34-35

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

Hebrews 7:25

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 9:27-28

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- He is faithful to His promises.

Romans 8:34

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

- Jesus never stops interceding for us.
- Jesus does different things for you as you need them.

Isaiah 55:6-9

“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- God’s compassion is so much greater than we can ever comprehend or think.
- Question: how much of the universe can you see?
 - If it was like the ocean, you could only see a cup.

Psalms 139:17-18

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

If I would count them, they are more than the sand.

I awake, and I am still with you.

- God’s thoughts for you outnumber what you could ever imagine!

Psalms 56:8

You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?

III. WE BOAST IN GOD ALMIGHTY THROUGH KING JESUS (v. 11)

Romans 5:11

“And not only this, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.”

- Why do we boast in King Jesus?
 - He has done it all!