

The Greatest Letter Ever Written!



Middle English: from Old French, from late Latin *passio(n-*) (chiefly a term in Christian theology), from Latin *pati* 'suffer'.







Phil 3:8 "Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ"

Rom 5:1-2

"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 <u>God</u>."

Rom 5:3-4

"More than that, <u>we rejoice in our</u> <u>sufferings</u>, <u>knowing that</u> suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character <u>produces hope</u>." Principle 1: Hope is not destroyed by suffering, rather it is created by it.

The Bible says we are saved by hope.

Rom 8:24 "For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope." Rom 4:20-21 "Abraham <u>did not waver</u> through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but <u>was strengthened in his faith</u> <u>and gave glory to God</u>, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised."

Principle 2 – A false understanding of "passion" fuels unbelief instead of hope and sin instead of holiness. 1 Jhn 3:3 "Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure."

1 Peter 4:1-2 "Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, <u>arm yourselves with</u> <u>the same way of thinking</u>, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh <u>no longer for human passions</u> <u>but for the will of God</u>." Principle 3: Biblical passion fuels joy and power.

1 Pet 4:13-14 "But rejoice insofar/because as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."

2 Cor 12:9 "His grace is sufficient because His power is made perfect in our weaknesses

1 Pet 4:19 "Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator <u>while (by)</u> doing good. 5:2-5 "....And we <u>rejoice in the hope of the</u> glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."

Principle 4: Christians are not called to have periodic joy in God, but perpetual. "Sorrowful, yet <u>always</u> rejoicing."

Matt 5:11-12 "<u>Blessed are you when</u> others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, <u>because</u> your reward is great in heaven."

Principle 4: Christians are not called to have periodic joy in God, but perpetual. "Sorrowful, yet <u>always</u> rejoicing." Principle 5: As we enjoy peace with God now, and as we stand in the grace of God now, we are waiting, longing, hoping for the ultimate good of the gospel: the glory of God <u>then</u>."

Ro 5:2 "we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God."

Phil 1:29

"it has been appointed "graced" for you not just to believe on Jesus Christ but also to suffer for His sake." Grace - 2 Thess 2:16 "The Lord Jesus Christ loved us and gave us good hope through grace!" We may hope because God is a God of grace. God gives you hope.

<u>Gospel</u> - Col 1:23 "Don't shift from the <u>hope of the gospel</u>." There is hope because of the good news that Christ died for sinners apart from our works to try and save ourselves.

Titus 2:13 our blessed hope is "the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ." Jesus

Ro 8:23 that our hope is "the redemption of our bodies." <u>No more sorrow, suffering</u> <u>or sickness!</u>

Gal 5:5 that our hope is the consummation of our righteousness. <u>Glorification with no ability to sin</u>!