

*“Thanksgiving and Suffering”
(Romans 5:1-8)*

Empty Calories vs. the Real Meal

First Course: The fruits of justification

Main Course: The ‘meat and gravy’ Holy Spirit

The best is saved for last

The fruits of Justification (Rom. 5:1-2)

From the past: ‘We have _____ with God’

In the present: ‘Standing in God’s _____’

For the future: ‘We rejoice in the _____ _____ _____’

Joy IN Suffering and Real Growth

_____ *on what’s important (5:3)*

_____ *from experience (5:4)*

_____ *from God’s love poured out (5:5)*

The Demonstrated Life-Love of Christ (5:6-8)

We are h_____

We are h_____ and ‘h_____’

God’s love is offered to his enemies: _____

You are invited to the greatest feast of all!

Romans 5:1-8 NIV

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.