



The Full Gospel Church

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BUILDING ON EXPERIENCE

In our Christian walk we gain a huge amount of experience. A number of our experiences are not pleasant, but they show us the way that the Lord is continually watching out for us. For instance, the Lord Jesus Christ showed me a dream before the first fire I went through. In the dream I saw an image of Satan in the bathroom mirror punching me through the glass and breaking the glass. I knew that I was in for a dreadful experience, without knowing what it would be. The Lord is always watching out for his own.

Romans 5:1-21

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

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17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

As we live in this world, it is inevitable that bad things will happen to us. With Satan's control of the world for a short time, and the end to his reign soon at hand, is it any wonder that he is attacking the Christian with everything that he has? Even with the total onslaught against the Christian, the Christian is still victorious. Satan cannot fight against Jesus and his saints and expect to win.

With each attack we withstand from Satan, we gain experience on how much the Lord is protecting us. We also gain knowledge about the Lord's might against the wiles of Satan. We gain a deep understanding about the strength of the Lord and the weakness of Satan against that strength. Each time the Lord brings us through another attack, Satan's armor is pierced anew.

So when the Apostle Paul wrote, "we glory in tribulations..." he is telling us about the redemptive power of the Lord Jesus Christ, and also about how the Lord delivers us from

all of the wiles of the devil. So when the wicked around us rise up in their wickedness, we have the ability to glory in the tribulation. When Satan realizes the evil that he propagates against us does not weaken our resolve, but strengthens us, it would be wise of the devil to back off for a while. If we get all bothered and upset by his attacks, he will continue to use the same attacks against us to bring us down and hopefully destroy us.

On the other hand if Satan sees us glory in the tribulation by thanking the Lord for the trial, he will begin to wonder if his plan is the correct one.

James 1:1-4

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

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Services:

Sunday School 11:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 12:00 Noon
Sunday Evening 6:30 PM
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