

How to Experience
The Ecstasy of Thankfulness
During
The Agony of Tragedy
part 2

11/24/13

Become convinced of and secure in the love of God

by:

1. learning how s _____ we are

Romans 3:9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin;

¹⁰ as it is written, "There is none righteous, not even one;

¹¹ There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God;

¹² All have turned aside, together they have become useless; There is none who does good, There is not even one."

¹³ "Their throat is an open grave, With their tongues they keep deceiving," "The poison of asps is under their lips";

¹⁴ "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness";

¹⁵ "Their feet are swift to shed blood,

¹⁶ Destruction and misery are in their paths,

¹⁷ And the path of peace have they not known."

¹⁸ "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God;

²⁰ because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

2. learning how r _____ God has made us

²¹ But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,

²² even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

²⁵ whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was to demonstrate* His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

²⁶ for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

²⁹ Or is God *the* God of Jews only? Is He not *the* God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,

³⁰ since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.

³¹ Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.

3. enjoying p_____ with God during the agony of tragedy

Romans 5:1 Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷ For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

4. comparing our future glory with the agony of tragedy

Romans 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

¹⁹ For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope

²¹ that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

5. expecting the agony of tragedy in this fallen world

²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

²⁴ For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one also hope for what he sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

²⁶ And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;

²⁷ and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

6. envisioning growth during the agony of tragedy

²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren;

³⁰ and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?

7. thinking about these things during the agony of tragedy:

a. God delivered up His Son for us

³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

b. God justified us

³³ Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies;

³⁴ who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

c. God secured us in His love

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁶ Just as it is written, "For Thy sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All Scripture: NASV