

Praise God in All Things

As God's children, we praise Him in peace and prosperity; in adversity and life's storms; and in all circumstances that come our way. We place our complete trust in our faithful Heavenly Father, knowing nothing can separate us from His love. When trouble arises, our natural reaction is to resent and complain. Yet amid chaos, Christians develop an inner calm. It's the calling of a gracious soul to remain silent in the greatest afflictions. We may groan to God, but we must not complain against Him. **Romans 5:1-5:** *"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we also have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we celebrate in hope of the glory of God. And not only this, but we also celebrate in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; 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."* That's a long passage, albeit it encourages our perseverance, prayerful dependence, and vigilance. Our serenity comes from knowing that God works in His children, enabling us to share in His holiness and ultimately in His glory. **Hebrews 12:5-6:** *"And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, 'My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and He chastens everyone He accepts as His son.'*" When adversity comes, we trust in the Holy Spirit to fill us with hope. **James 1:2-4:** *"Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."* Equally, we should thank God for every blessing and good gift, recognizing that they come from Him; we never lack worthy reasons to praise our Heavenly Father. **Ephesians 5:20:** *"always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."* Although we naturally desire success, it can tempt us to forget the Lord when He grants us wealth or other forms of prosperity, allowing pride to lift our hearts and draw us away from Him. Adversity is a bitter cup to drink, but prosperity is like intoxicating wine. We must remain sober through humble thanksgiving, always remembering and acknowledging the blessings and good things God freely gives us. As believers who love God, we know He guides everything in our history for our good. **Romans 8:31-32:** *"... If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?"* Whatever challenges we face in life, nothing can separate us from the Father's love. No one has a stronger reason for optimism than a Christian, a child of God.