



**SHEROES & CHAMPIONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT 2004
GLORY IN TRIBULATION**

**The Book Of Romans - Women's Discipleship Group
Terri McFaddin Series #3 Lesson #3**

Scripture Focus: *And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance. (Romans 5:3)*

Key Word: **Tribulation** (Greek – Thlibo) Suffering due to the pressure of circumstances or the antagonism of persons.

OPENING STATEMENT:

In the early days of the Christian church persecution from the Jewish leaders as well as the Romans was ongoing. Paul writes words of encouragement to let the church body know that whatever they were going through, it was making the church stronger and *working together for their good* (Romans 8:28).

As a godly woman you may be facing many challenges, but in every situation it is important to recognize how the Lord uses the principles of *cause* and *effect* to get the desired results in our lives.

I want to point out 3 important examples of *cause and effect* listed between Roman 5:1-5.

CAUSE

1. Tribulation – vs. 3
2. Perseverance – vs. 4
3. Character – 4
4. Hope – vs. 5

EFFECT

- Produces perseverance
Produces Good Character
Produces Hope
Releases Love

1. **Tribulation** – becomes bearable and even profitable when it is mixed with the grace of God. Just as steel becomes stronger when it is placed in the fire, tribulation allowed by God, produces the strength to persevere (2 Cor. 7:4-6).
2. **Perseverance** – is our greatest defense against the attacks of the enemy. The more pressure we are able to endure, the more patient and courageous we become (Hebrew 10:36).
3. **Character** – means that the character of Christ being formed in us as we learn to hope in Christ for our every need. Character is an extension of the spiritual gifts found in Galatians. 5:22 – love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness and faithfulness.
4. **Hope** – is a favorable and confident expectation. When opposition is present, hope allows us to see beyond the pain to the plan that God has for us. Hope gives us the strength and courage to reject bitterness and instead

release the love that comes from the assurance the God will work things out (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

OBSERVATIONS:

1. According to Romans 5:3, how should we respond to tribulation?

2. According to Romans 5:1, how are we “justified”?

INTERPRETATION:

1. Read Romans 5:1-5. Why do you think that tribulation ends with love instead of hate?

2. In Romans 5:5, how would you define the word “hope”?

PERSONALIZATION:

What type of tribulation have you endured and how has it strengthened your perseverance?

APPLICATION: If you now have a new understanding of why the Lord allows tribulation in your life, how will your testimony change when you share your faith with others?