The Bible describes the peace of God and peace from God. The prepositions "of" and "from" tell us that true peace has a source, and if we want to really experience it we simply have to go to that source. The phrase "peace with God" is a bit different. This means that two former enemies have become close friends. Near the beginning of this letter Paul wrote, "The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people..." (1:18). In this letter, Paul has moved us from being under the wrath of God (1:18) to being at peace with God (5:1). The anger of God towards our sin is over, there is not one little bit of hostility in God's heart towards us.

5:1 - "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith..."

- We are all on trial and judged guilty in God's courtroom.
- God has rewired us through an a sacrificial act of kindness.

We have peace with God... (5:1-2)

- From the wrath of God (1:18) to peace with God (5:1; Isaiah 40:1; 53:5).
- Warfare has truly ended.
- Faith is the entire orientation of my whole being body and soul, thoughts and emotions into a complete trust that God is fully in control.

We hope in God's glory and our sufferings... (5:3-4)

- We are ultimately hoping for the revelation of God's glory.
- This hope seeps into our suffering.
- Suffering matures us.

We have God's love... (5:5)

Questions for Reflection:

- Are you carrying any guilt for which God has forgiven you? Ask Him for a revelation of His forgiveness?
- Are you struggling to love someone? Ask God to pour His love into your heart.

WILLINGDON CHURCH ELDERS

Phil Balzer John Best Roman Bondartchouk Ken Dyck Jim Eisenhauer Alfred Gomez Ray Harms-Wiebe Ruben Heyn Danny Lee Paul Lee Mark Loewen Dave Marshall Ken Redekopp Mark Reimer Rick Reimer Vince Reimer Willy Reimer Norm Schmidt Ed Thiessen Wayne Wiebe Rick Wilson

Please continue to pray for the elders.

If you wish to contact an elder, please email elders@willingdon.org.