

Hope

Text: Romans 8:24-25

Introduction:

1. Paul tells us we are saved in this hope
2. A hope that is seen is not hope – for what you hoped for is now seen
3. Our hope is based upon a foundation of truths
4. This morning we are going to talk about this hope that abides within us. I will use an acrostic for the word **HOPE**.
5. In this acrostic (**H**) stands for help; (**O**) stands for optimism; (**P**) stand for power and (**E**) stands for expectation.

I. (H)elp

- a. Means we know that we cannot do it our selves
 - i. Our reliance is upon God
 - ii. Knowing that He will help
 1. Implies that what He has promised has come to past.
 2. Implies that the Scriptures are full of the promises that He has made and will make in the future.
- b. Means we are depending upon someone whom we can trust in. (proverbs 3:5)
 - i. Our glorious Father
 - ii. Our glorious Lord Jesus Christ
- c. Means we become humble when we need someone's **HELP**
 - i. In this instance, it is God
 - ii. This implies that we are helpless
 - iii. This implies that there is no one else that has the power to help.
 - iv. This implies that there is no one else that can do it.
- d. Means we know that we can pray to our Father in heaven and He will hear us.
- e. Means we have someone whom we can rely upon.
 - i. Who will give us help in the time of need?
 - ii. The answer is God.

II. (O)ptimism

- a. Optimism in the best possible outcome
 - i. The best possible solution is going to happen
- b. Eternal optimist
 - i. That God is.....
 1. The Eternal God
 - ii. That God is our creator
 - iii. That Christ came to earth to save mankind (**Matthew 1:21, 18:11**)
 1. That His Gospel Saves (**Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4**)
 - a. That Christ died for our sins
 - b. That Christ was buried
 - c. That Christ rose from the grave on the third day
 - iv. That in obedience to the gospel message that our sins have been forgiven

1. That as a Christian we have the Holy Spirit dwelling within us
2. That we have 'peace' with our Father in heaven
3. That as a Christian we have a 'joy unspeakable' (**1 Peter 1:8**)
 - v. That Christ is sitting on the right hand of God making intercession for His Saints (**Romans 8:34**)
 - vi. That Christ will come back for His Saints (**John 14:1-3**)
 - vii. That someday we will spend forever with Him in heaven

III. (P)ower

- i. That it was God who created the universe and all that is in it. (**Genesis 1:1**)
- ii. That it was God who performed the miracles in the Old Testament as examples of His power (**1 Corinthians 10:11**)
 1. The Creation (**Genesis 1:1**)
 2. The worldwide flood which destroyed all except Noah and his family (eight all together) (**Genesis 6:17**)
 3. The parting of the Red Sea (**Exodus 14:21**)
 4. The parting of the River Jordan so the Hebrew children could go into the promised land (**Joshua 3:13-14**)
 5. His power displayed numerous times against those who tried to prevail against His people
 6. His power displayed when His people turned their back on Him
 - a. An example is Lot's wife – she looked back to the old life and turned to a pillar of salt. (**Genesis 19:26**)
 - iii. To bring His Word to mankind
 - iv. To bring a shining light into this dark world
 - v. To give us salvation through His Son Jesus Christ and the gospel message (**Romans 1:16**)
 - vi. To cleanse us from unrighteousness through His Son Jesus Christ
 - vii. To make alive that which is dead (**Romans 6**)
 - viii. To have the ability to have purity in our lives (**Titus 2:14**)
 - ix. To resurrect from the dead – forever to live (**1 Corinthians 15:22**)

IV. (E)pectation

- a. With eager anticipation we await the outcome – The war is over – Christ wins – Satan loses – when Christ arose from the grave – but, we still have many spiritual battles to fight.
 - i. In our spiritual life, we await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with great anticipation
 - ii. As a Christian, we are just pilgrims awaiting the promise of eternal life.
 - iii. As a Christian we are awaiting for heaven and all the glory of God with great anticipation.
- b. Anticipating the best in neighbors
- c. Anticipating the best in our friends
- d. Anticipating the best even in our enemies

- e. Yes, anticipation is about our attitude and how we view others.
 - i. Hoping for the best in everybody
 - ii. Expecting the best in everybody
- f. With great expectation, being a Christian we have a hope that the world does not have nor can offer.
 - i. Our Hope is built upon an expectation of what God has to offer, and it is eternal life.

Conclusion:

1. We today have a **Hope** that gives us **HELP**, a **Hope** that gives us **OPTIMISM**, a **Hope** that has **POWER** and a **Hope** that gives us **EXPECTATION**. As Paul tells us in our Scripture text that we eagerly await that which is promised with perseverance.
2. It is A **HOPE** that is founded upon the promises of God.
3. It is A **HOPE** that is bought by the precious blood of His Son Jesus Christ.
4. It is A **HOPE** that you and I can partake in without doubt, without shame, without second guessing and without wavering.

Hope

**Hope is a word
that every
hurting heart
understands.
Hope shines
brighter than
the brightest star
on the darkest night.**

**Faith is bigger than the highest mountain.
And God is greater than any obstacle in your path.
Anything can be accomplished by those who fully
put their hearts into it. The time to start is now;
the place to start is
here. May hope
cast its special
light upon your
path and God
bless everything
you touch in the
hours, days,
and moments
still to come.**

Linda Knight

