

The Christian's Hope

The sure, steadfast heavenly hope that overshadows all temporary trials

Introduction

- Devastating words at times of illness or other crises are "It's hopeless."
- People live either having no hope of anything good occurring in their lives or falsely hoping in temporal things rather than in God
- The Christian's hope is unique because it is not founded on earthly conditions but on the perfect character of God

2

Introduction

- This hope is a reasonable, unquenchable hope that uplifts us even in the face of death because it looks forward to eternal life
- Of all people, we should have every reason to hope in this life
- We explore this hope now not only for our encouragement but to be able to encourage others to obey the Lord in order to have this hope in Christ

3

What Is Hope?

OT view - "...expectation of good....Linked with trust and yearning....It is not our own projection, but confidence in what God will do... "

NT view - "When fixed on God, hope embraces expectation, trust and patient waiting."

Kittle's Theological Dictionary of NT Words, Abridged, pp. 230-31)

4

What Is Hope?

Hope is desiring and expecting things in the future

Rom 8:24 For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already* sees?

Rom 8:25 But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

5

Hope Tied Closely To Faith

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

6

What Is The Basis Of Our Hope?

- Not feelings from within
- Not blind acceptance without deeply believing what is written
- Hope is based on written confirmed evidence that the Bible is the Word of God and Jesus is the Son of God
- Fulfilled prophecies and eyewitness testimony

7

What Is The Basis Of Our Hope?

1Co 15:1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

1Co 15:2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

1Co 15:3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,⁸

What Is The Basis Of Our Hope?

1Co 15:4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

1Co 15:5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

1Co 15:6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

9

What Is The Basis Of Our Hope?

1Co 15:7 then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

1Co 15:8 and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

1Co 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised;

1Co 15:14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

10

What Is The Basis Of Our Hope?

1Co 15:18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

1Co 15:19 If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

1Co 15:20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.

Tit 1:2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago,

11

Hope To Become More Like Christ

Col 1:25 Of *this church* I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the *preaching* of the word of God,

Col 1:26 *that is*, the mystery which has been hidden from the *past* ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints,

12

Hope To Become More Like Christ

Col 1:27 to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Col 1:28 We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

13

Hope To Become More Like Christ

Col 1:29 For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

14

Hope For Others To Become More Like Christ

1Co 13:4 Love is patient, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant,

1Co 13:5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong *suffered*,

1Co 13:6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

1Co 13:7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ¹⁵

Hope To Be Resurrected To Be With Christ

1Th 4:13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

16

Hope To Be Resurrected To Be With Christ

1Th 4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

17

Hope To Be Resurrected To Be With Christ

1Th 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

1Th 4:18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

18

Hope To Become Like Jesus When We See Him

1Jn 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and *such* we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

19

Hope To Receive Eternal Glorious Inheritance

Tit 1:2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago,

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

20

Hope To Receive Eternal Glorious Inheritance

1Pe 1:4 to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

1Pe 1:5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

21

Hope Purifies Our Character And Conduct

Col 1:22 yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach--

Col 1:23 if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

22

Hope Purifies Our Character And Conduct

1Jn 3:3 And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

23

Hope Stabilizes Us During Trials

Heb 6:13 For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,

Heb 6:14 saying, "I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU."

Heb 6:15 And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.

24

Hope Stabilizes Us During Trials

Heb 6:16 For men swear by one greater *than themselves*, and with them an oath *given* as confirmation is an end of every dispute.

Heb 6:17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

25

Hope Stabilizes Us During Trials

Heb 6:18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

Heb 6:19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

26

Hope Stabilizes Us During Trials

Heb 6:20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

27

The Christian's Hope

What is hope?

What is the basis of our hope?

For what things do we hope?

What does our hope do for us now?

28

We Must Become And Live As Christians To Have This Hope

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

29