

Hope

Harmony M.B.C., January 18, 2009 (evening)

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Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

Rom 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Rom 8:19 For the **earnest expectation** of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

(Earnest expectation: Gr.= apokaradokia; from a comp. of kara (*the head*) and "*strained expectancy*": - **anxious longing (1), earnest expectation (1)**).

Rom 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope,

The believer would have life another way; not subjected to vanity, but immediately brought into the final and glorified immortal state, free from sin, vanity and vexation.

There is purpose in this state of being subjected to vanity; but our understanding of that purpose is unclear. We know:

continuing in this state of vanity gives God a witness on earth that is born of living faith and abiding hope

it gives Him laborers to bring other sheep into the fold

it gives the children of God opportunity to experience the magnitude of the damage that sin has caused the human race, and creation

Rom 8:21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

The creature will receive the resurrected translation out of corruption and bondage into liberty and immortality.

Rom 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

This is the explanation of why man is such a religious creature.

This groaning and travail is a characteristic of the whole created world

Groaning because of the twisted condition of a world damaged by sin

Groaning because of how sin is affecting all things

Rom 8:23 And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

Even believers are in that state of groaning as they wait

Rom 8:24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

Saved by way of the hoped for solution

Rom 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with patience wait for *it*.
It is the steadfast expectancy or receiving that which is not made immediately apparent that gives us patience to wait

First and foremost, Christ is the summation of the hope of the believer

1Tim 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Savior, and Lord Jesus Christ, *which is our hope*;

Christ's resurrection has produced a living hope in believers

1Pe 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a **lively hope** by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

So, the centerpiece of the believer's hope is about resurrection from the dead

Act 23:6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men *and* brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question

Act 24:15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

Eternal life is the central focus of God-given hope

Tit 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

The ultimate receiving of the end of our hope waits in heaven

Col 1:5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

The signal to God's people that fulfillment of that hope has come is the appearance of Christ in the second coming:

Tit 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;

We may retain this hope in every bodily state

Act 2:25 For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

Act 2:26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also **my flesh shall rest in hope**:

Act 2:27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Hope gives us a reason to suffer without shame (sin has brought shame to mankind, but our confidence in Christ is a testimony that we believe that shame has been wiped away for us by Him)

Rom 5:3 And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

Rom 5:4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

Rom 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

There is reason to rejoice when we have hope

Rom 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

Scripture is designed to reinforce and grow our hope

Rom 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

And the joy mentioned earlier, coupled with peace, will cause our hope to even further abound

Rom 15:13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Temporal hope alone makes for misery

1Co 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

Hope is one of a two-part confirmation of true salvation:

Col 1:21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

Col 1:22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblamable and unreprouable in his sight:

Col 1:23 **If ye continue** in the **faith** grounded and settled, and **be not moved away from the hope** of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Hope is one critical element that proves the perseverance of the saints

1Th 1:3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and **patience of hope** in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

While patience works experience, and experience works hope (Rom. 5:4), patience is a product of hope also.

Tit 3:7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Part of the expectation accompanying eternal life is the idea of inheritance with Christ

Heb 6:10 For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Heb 6:11 And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

Service to fellow believers enhances hope and moves us toward a “full assurance” that is the fruit of a mature hope

1Pe 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

We should be ready to give an answer to anyone about our hope.

1Jn 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

1Jn 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. Having this hope should provoke us to make it our responsibility to enforce purity on ourselves.

Additional scriptures:

Gal 5:5 For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Eph 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

2Th 2:16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Hope is (obviously) a product of God’s grace.

