

Hope

Part 3

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Anchor Verse

- **1 Peter 1:3-5**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

What is Hope?

- Hope is the joyous anticipation of good.
- Hope is the fuel our faith that moves us from the present reality to our future glory.
- Hope is trusting in the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.
- Hope is an anchor for our soul.
- Hope is not, positive thinking, good vibes, wishing in the wind, it's a confident assurance in what God has said and promised!

Review — Last week we look at the story of the Shunamite woman and Elisha, where she is given a hope, and through tragedy and miracles we captured a glimpse of Hidden Hopes, Painful Hope, and Redeeming Hope! If you missed it please check it out, I believe it will bless you.

Where is our Hope?

- Has anyone ever struggled with “can’t hide disappointment face”? Like when you receive the Christmas present you were hoping for — but it wasn’t quite the right one?
- Sometimes I see this same face, maybe even sometimes when we talk about Jesus!
- I believe the reason that we have “disappointed gift face” when we talk about Jesus is because we aren’t really understanding how good of a gift we really have!

This is pivotal to our Hope conversation, because we want to trust in all the other things— we want the gift we asked for — not the one we think Jesus will offer to us!

- **Where is our Hope?**

- Good Christianity
- Being liked
- Being feared
- Being known
- Title
- Comfort

Where does the Apostle Paul put Hope, and what can we learn about it?

- **Colossians 1 3-14**

³ We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; ⁵ because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, ⁶ which has come to you, as *it has* also in all the world, and is bringing forth ^[a]fruit, as *it is* also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; ⁷ as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ who also declared to us your love in the Spirit. ⁹ For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰ that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; ¹² giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and ^[b]conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption ^[c]through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Gospel Hope

- **The Gospel of Jesus bring hopes to life and creates action**

- ***Old Testament outlines the separation of Humanity from God***

- **Genesis 3:23-24**

Therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

- ***Messiah is Promised***

- **Isaiah 9:6**

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

- ***Jesus is Born and lives a life here on earth***

- **John 1:14**

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

- ***He dies for us and is raised up conquering sin and the grave***

- **Romans 4:25**

...who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

- ***Giving us access to His Kingdom for eternity***

- **Ephesians 2:6-7**

... and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Jesus is our Hope

- There are people who don't want to hear the simplicity of this point, but it's still true! When we see Him, and learn what He has done, and what He has given us, Hope comes!
- *We are more concerned with changing our situation, than trusting Jesus*

We don't like it because we aren't thinking about what this is really saying — what is Jesus really like?

The Preeminence of Christ

- **Colossians 1:15-23**
¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or ^[a]principalities or ^[b]powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. ¹⁹ For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell, ²⁰ and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight— ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.
- **All Knowing** — He already knows everything about you
 - **Psalms 147:5**
Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.
- **All Powerful** — He can handle anything that happens
 - **Matthew 19:26**
But Jesus looked at *them* and said to them, “**With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.**”
- **Always present** — He is always near to you
 - **Jeremiah 23:23-24**
“Am I a God near at hand,” says the LORD, “And not a God afar off? Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?” says the LORD; “Do I not fill heaven and earth?” says the LORD.
- **Kind** — He is good towards you
 - **Psalms 84:11**
For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good *thing* will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

- **Self-Sacrificial** — He will put you first
 - **John 10:11**
“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”
- **Love** — Everything He does is loving
 - **1 John 4:16**
And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.
- **Holy** — He is not defiled by the world
 - **1 Samuel 2:2**
No one is holy like the LORD, For *there is* none besides You, Nor *is there* any rock like our God.
- **Righteous** — His ways are always right
 - **Psalms 11:7**
For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright.

Paul's Ministry to the Church

- **Colossians 1:24-29**
²⁴I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church, ²⁵of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, ²⁶the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. ²⁷To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. ²⁹To this *end* I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

Identity Matters

Identity of Hope

- This is no longer a story that your hearing this is now a fixture of who you are! Christ is IN YOU, that is the Hope of Glory!
- Glory isn't coming by any path but Christ being in YOU

Who we believe ourselves to be changes the way we live!

- Much like hoping in the wrong things, we use that same list to find our identity!
- You're not the sum total of your actions
- You're not your accomplishments
- You're not valued upon your works at all
- You're a blood-bought, son or daughter of the King of Kings!

***It's the difference between me watching a good golfer and trying impersonate him
— vs allowing that golfer to take over and golf thru me!***

It's not imitation.

It's impartation.

It's Christ in us—the hope of glory!”

- **2 Peter 1:3**

... as His divine power has given to us **all things** that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue...

ALL THINGS

The Gospel Brings Hope, and in turn, Jesus Brings hope — but the pinnacle of Chapter 1, Paul is showing us that his Hope is not just a far-off dream, *it is who we are as believers.*

**The Christ Who you know and love, the One you trust, Who has everything you need —
*is now in you!***

Your Identity is HOPE!

Discussion Questions

1. Are you ever disappointed in “hope” because you don’t think it’s going to turn out like you want it to, or think it should?
 2. What are some things you have put your hope and trust in?
Were they worthy of that hope?
 3. Why are we more concerned about changing our situation than trusting Jesus?
 4. What is the difference between “imitation” and “impartation”?
 5. Read 1 Peter 1:3. Discuss what has been given to us.
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