

The Holy Spirit

Lesson 18 – The Holy Spirit & Hope

Outline By: Mark Knowles 10/27/19 AM

But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)

The writer of Hebrews describes hope as “a sure and steadfast anchor for our souls.” (Hebrews 6:19) this spiritual anchor is different from material anchors on ships. For one thing, we are anchored *upward*—to heaven—not downward. We are anchored, not to stand still, but to *move ahead*! Our anchor is “sure”—it cannot break—and “steadfast”—it cannot slip. No earthly anchor can give that kind of security! We have the greatest hope in all the world!

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope, (1 Timothy 1:1)

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:1-5)

We have hope in our hearts, only because the Holy Spirit continues to inspire and produce it there. It is again another one of His “fruits.” Hope is the power to bring lasting change. It brings us through the trials and tribulations of life.

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Every time we persevere through tribulation the Holy Spirit pours more hope into our hearts until we develop an abounding, vigorous, and animated hope that cannot be defeated.

In 1 Peter 1:3-9, Peter encourages persecuted Christians by reminding them that “We have been born again unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” *It is called a living hope* because it is grounded on the living Word of God (1 Peter 1:23) and was made possible by the living Son of God who arose from the dead. A “living hope” is one that has life in it and therefore can give life to us.

For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it. (Romans 8:24-25).

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:13)

Peter is encouraging us to fix our hope completely on the grace that will be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ. The living hope that the power of the Holy Spirit created in us, is not built on a works foundation, neither is it based on getting all of our doctrines right. There is only one foundation for our hope, and that is on the grace that God extends to us through the cross, and in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

In the world Jesus said we would have tribulation. In Him He said we would have peace. Notice the contrast – a hope that is only in this life versus having our hope in the eternal life of Christ...

Ecclesiastes 1 vs. 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher, "Vanity of vanities! All is vanity." What advantage does man have in all his work Which he does under the sun? A generation goes and a generation comes, But the earth remains forever. All things are wearisome; Man is not able to tell it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, Nor is the ear filled with hearing. That which has been is that which will be, And that which has been done is that which will be done. So there is nothing new under the sun.

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing. (2 Timothy 4:6-8)

The best way to keep from losing our hope is—to *lay hold of the anchor!* To lay hold of Jesus and His precious grace! How much more secure can you be?