



GOD GIVES US HOPE

By Bill Subritzky

Hope, joy and peace

Scripture says, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

(Romans 15:13, NKJV.)

Yes, God is the God of hope. We are not grasping at straws when we start believing with all our heart that Jesus Christ died on the cross but rose from the dead on the third day and is seated at the right hand of God.

When we believe then a door opens to us to reveal the whole mystery of God. Suddenly we realise that God becomes a Person who cares for us, loves us and wants to give us hope for the future, not only in this life but also in eternity.

The Helper - the Holy Spirit

He wants to walk with us and speak with us by the Holy Spirit. He will lead us into all truth and take what belongs to God and declare it to us. (John 16:13-14).

It is this intimacy with God that gives us hope. Then the joy and peace of God enters our lives regardless of what may be happening to us or around us.

God will never leave us or forsake us. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Jesus always knew the presence of God with Him.

"I foresaw the Lord always before my face,

For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken." (Psalm 16:8)

In the same way we can believe that God is walking with us by the Holy Spirit.

As He said, "He will never leave us nor forsake us." (Deuteronomy 31:6.)

Abounding in hope

God wants us to abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13).

God wishes us to be full of hope in every circumstance.

That is why we all individually need to have our own Pentecost; just as the early church received the power of the Holy Spirit by waiting on the Lord then that power fell upon them. They spoke in tongues and the anointing made them appear to be drunk. Yes, they were drunk but not as we understand it in the flesh, but they were drunk in the Holy Spirit.

At that moment the church of Jesus Christ began.

Thousands were converted as the disciples witnessed to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ with a Pentecostal power that had fallen upon them.

Miracles of healing and deliverance took place as the disciples ministered in the power of the Holy Spirit.

God's thoughts

God says, "I know the thoughts that I think towards you, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11.)

We all need hope in our lives and God offers this as we trust in Him.

Christ in us the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27)

As we submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ His glory begins to come upon us. Our faces mirror the glory of God. I have seen many people who have given their lives to Christ change from depressed unhappy people to those whose faces shine with the glory of God.

We do not see that for which we hope.

We need to realise that hope that is seen is not hope. But if we hope for what we do not see then we eagerly wait for it with patience. (Romans 8:24-25).

Suffering can produce hope

Sometimes we are suffering and we don't know why it is happening. God does test our faith for our own good from time to time. The Bible says that as we suffer this can produce endurance, then character, then hope.

Hope does not disappoint because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us. (Romans 5:1-21).

Realising our hopes

I find that one way of realising my hopes is to trust God with all my heart no matter what is facing me. When I go to conduct a large crusade meeting, my flesh is fighting against it and all sorts of obstacles seem to arise.

However I always set my face like a flint (Isaiah 50:7) knowing that I have hope in God and that as I obey Him in my calling as an evangelist then He will always appear on the scene.

Crusade meetings

Some large crusade meetings in Labasa, Fiji were supported by 16 churches. In each of the night meetings I encouraged people at the close of my message to come forward, repent from their sins and give their lives to Christ if they had not already done so.

They were reluctant to come out and stand in front of a crowd. On the first two nights they were fairly slow to respond but eventually a large number came out each night.

I had been through a very busy schedule, so that on the third night of the meetings as I made the call for salvation and repentance I began to feel tired. However I rested my hope for a great response absolutely in Jesus Christ and suddenly the power of God fell on the meeting in a dramatic way. More than 1000 people came forward as though they were drawn by a giant hand.

God had virtually taken over the meeting and spoken by the power of the Holy Spirit into the hearts of these people. As we looked at the faces of hundreds of young people coming forward my wife Kaylene and others wept as they looked at these eager faces so desirous of making their hearts right with God.

I realised that although the three nights of meetings had been hard work, it had all been worthwhile.

Placing our hope in God

So it is when we hope in God. As a loving Father, He will listen to us with all our problems and difficulties. As we surrender to Him, as little children, in the name of Jesus Christ, He will make a pathway through all these problems and give us fresh hope not only for the present but also for the future.

It is our prayer that God will give you a fresh revelation of His blessings as you place your hope and faith absolutely in Jesus Christ.

Compiled by Bill Subritzky and produced by Dove Ministries.

More articles and resources are available at www.doveministries.com