



# ***Lights and Perfection, Inc.***

**Go and make disciples!**

E-votional 125

## **Hope**

Romans 15:12-13 (BSB)

*And once more, Isaiah says: "The Root of Jesse will appear, One who will arise to rule over the Gentiles; in Him the Gentiles will put their hope. Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*

You know, my wife and I were discussing this passage of Scripture and we were breaking it down and unpacking it, and talking about the idea here in this teaching about peace and joy that comes from our trust and belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. And also through that peace and joy in our faith, and our trust and our belief in (Christ), we might overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

While we were unpacking this Scripture and breaking it down we were reading all sorts of different translations along with this one mentioned above from the Berean Study Bible. We were comparing them side by side wanting to get the full expression of this passage of Scripture.

Now this idea here of the God of hope. The idea of hope is best defined by an expectation. Now we know that when God says something, it is firm, steadfast, and trustworthy. In other words, we can expect that what He says will come to pass. So I like how Paul writes about God being the God of Hope. Paul is praying here to the church at Rome. And he's praying, now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace, as you believe in him. So he is saying, now, may the God of expectation, the One who holds all of our expectation, fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in him, so that you may overflow with hope or expectation by the power of the Holy Spirit.

You know, as I was reflecting on this, and as we were breaking this down, it really showed me that, when we have a deficit of joy and peace in our lives, that in those moments we also have a deficit of hope.

And as He wrote this through the apostle Paul, it gave me some illumination and how to apply it and soak it in and allow it to saturate into my innermost being.

I share this, because, brothers and sisters, I don't know about you, but sometimes I have a deficit of hope and I want to know why. Sometimes fears and doubts run into my heart and in my mind and I have to search myself by asking, What is going on here? How did this come about? And I have to remind myself of such Scriptures like this. Let me tell you, this was a word in due season brothers and sisters.

Now, may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him. This is what we want for you, brothers and sisters, that as you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you would become filled with peace and joy to such a degree that you would become one that is overflowing with solid, sound, biblical expectation through the power of the Holy Spirit.

And what is that expectation? Well, I want to jump into verse 12 for that,

*And once more, Isaiah says: "The Root of Jesse will appear, One who will arise to rule over the Gentiles; in Him, the Gentiles will put their hope."*

Along with this, another Scripture came into my mind as Jeanne and I were unpacking this, and it was from Hebrews 6:19-20,

*We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus our forerunner has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever in the order of Melchizedek.*

That is Jesus Christ our King and our Messiah. He has become the forerunner and entered on our behalf behind the curtain. The hope that we have is rooted in the root of Jesse, Jesus Christ and the promise that He will again return to receive us to Himself. And forever we will be with the Lord. And that hope that we have now is that which emanates from a life filled with joy and peace, as we trust in Him and wait for our ultimate salvation of when He returns to receive us home. From that, this hope begins to brew within us so much that it bubbles up and overflows. In other words, this expectation that flows from the peace and joy of the Holy Spirit and the power of the Holy Spirit gives us that solid, firm, and trustworthy expectation that our anchor is behind the veil brothers and sisters, where Jesus our forerunner has already gone on our behalf and so this joy and peace in this life is a necessity to maintaining that expectation that we have in the Lord Jesus Christ.

As I mentioned earlier, I don't know about you, but when I have a deficit of peace and joy, I began to see through this Scripture that I also have a deficit of expectation or hope. And in other places in Scripture, we are taught that we should set our hope fully on the salvation that will be brought to us on the day Jesus Christ is revealed from heaven on clouds with great glory. Hallelujah! And we want to have that hope that overflows, not this hope, where we wax and wane and we doubt constantly and we fear we fear this life. That kind of fear shows that we don't know where we're going.

I don't want to just teach this. I want this to become a part of me where it is fully formed in my own life. God shows us these things to bring correction into our lives, but also encouragement because he wants what's best for us. And so I know. And a lot of times. That I don't have joy and peace in my life as I ought to. And because I have that deficit of joy and peace I also have a deficit of hope which I should be full of.

Jesus Christ died for our sins and He rose again on the third day. Because of that, the testimony of God was pure and reliable. It was true. It was steadfast. It was unshakable. All because He proved through the resurrection of Jesus Christ that we who believe in him will not perish but have everlasting life. And that is something that we can have peace and joy in no matter what we are going through in this life. We know that this life is only for a moment, brothers and sisters.

And so the encouragement here today is to get our roots into the root of Jesse, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and our Messiah so that as we believe in him, peace and joy can start to bubble up within us. And from that peace and joy bubbling up within us. We can also bubble up and overflow with solid biblical evidence in conviction through hope in the Lord Jesus Christ that he is again coming back to redeem us and to judge the wicked and that we will gain our inheritance, for the meek shall inherit the earth.

I don't know about you. But I look forward to that day. But I also want to highlight that I want to continue looking forward to that day. I don't want the things of this life and the cares of this world to choke the word in my heart and make it unfruitful. I want peace and joy and righteousness to abound in hope and to overflow so that people can see my life and say. What is the reason for your hope? Peter tells us (1 Peter 3:15), when we are asked that question, we better be ready to give a defense. But I don't know about you, brothers and sisters when I don't have peace and joy in my life, I'm certainly not ready to give a defense for the hope, because I don't feel like I have the hope. So this is an exhortation to jump back into the hope of the resurrection and of eternal life. And to set our minds so fully upon it that people around us can see and wonder

what is the reason for the hope in you.

Well, brothers and sisters, we hope this word has encouraged you and just brought a little light into your day.

We ask that the Lord would just continue to bless you and keep you; that he would just make his face shine upon you; that he would be gracious unto you; that he would lift his countenance upon you and give you peace in Jesus name.

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In Christ's Love,  
Chris and Jeanne  
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