

Romans 8:23-27

Hope and the Spirit

1. 8:23 – Spirit and Our Groanings

- v22 - Creation is cursed: God offers hope in Christ – Gen 3:17, Rev 21:4,22:3, 2 Tim 1:10
- “ourselves also...”* – We also groan in pain, suffering, corruption of our bodies.
- We *“have the firstfruits of the Spirit”* – Out of due time, by grace - Eph 1:13, Rom 8:9
- Conclusion → the Spirit doesn't remove the cause of physical groaning in our body.
- “redemption of our body”* – not our soul, which is redeemed - Eph 1:7, 1:14
- Our future day of redemption is of our bodies - Eph 4:30, 1 Cor 15:51-54, Phi 3:21
- This is known as hope. Hope is informed by the Spirit. Realized in redemption.

2. 8:24 – Saved by Hope

- Our Hope is Jesus Christ acc. to the mystery revealed to Paul – 1 Tim 1:1
- More 'hope' in Paul (40+) than anywhere else (Job's hope lost, Psalms verb, MMJ 0x)
- “saved by hope”* - Saved from present corrupt bodies (saved not always from sin)
- Hope is certain by faith in Christ – It is a noun, not a verb, a wish on a star, dream.
- “hope that is seen”* – If you see it, you don't have to hope for it. 2 Cor 5:6-8
- Conclusion → In misery, distress, pain is where hope of the Lord is supposed to shine
- Elizabeth Prentiss had the idea, pain works hope – “More love to thee, Lord” Rom 5:2-4
- Without this hope we (in Christ) are 'miserable' - 1 Cor 15:19 (a sad flesh reality)

3. 8:25 – Patience of Hope

- “hope for that we see not”* – things not seen (faith, spiritual things, etc) 2 Cor 4:18
- “we with patience wait”* – This the Christian walk in hope and by the Spirit. Gal 5:5
 - Hopelessness is a failure to live by hope and after the Spirit – 2 Cor 6:4
 - Patience amid suffering is the virtue of the spiritually minded man of God.
 - The power of God in us today is found in this hope – 2 Cor 4:8-14
 - Hope each day is not a given, it must be renewed – 2 Cor 4:16, Eph 3:16
- Hope from learning the patience and comfort from the scriptures – Rom 15:4
- Hope requires: 1) faith (Heb 11:1), 2) confidence (experienced assurance)
- Patience in suffering comes by the power of the Holy Ghost – Rom 15:13, 1 Th 1:3, 5

4. 8:26 – The Spirit's Help

- “Likewise”* - As the Spirit bears witness (v16), thru faith and hope in what we don't see
- Romans 8 is not about you doing more work, but trusting the Spirit's work
- “the Spirit helpeth”* – Romans 8 is the Spirit's ministry of help to us.
- “our infirmities”* – in this present time, when we turn to God in prayer – Phi 4:6-7
- “for we know not”* – our ignorance for what to ask; *“as we ought”* – our being informed
- The Spirit works for what we need, when we don't know what we need – Gal 5:22
- Our job is let the Spirit work, walk after the Spirit, waiting patiently in informed hope.

Things the Spirit does for us in Romans 5 & 8

1. Makes hope unashamed (certain/sure/secure) (Rom 5:5), by...
2. Sheds abroad the love of God in our hearts (Rom 5:5)

----- *Our hope due to God's abundant love is expounded in Romans 8* -----

1. Gives life in Christ (Rom 8:2)
2. Frees from the law of sin and death (Rom 8:2)
3. Makes you accepted of God in Christ (Rom 8:8, Eph 1:6)
4. Changes your mind (Rom 8:4-8)
5. Dwells in you (Rom 8:9)
6. Quickens your mortal bodies (Rom 8:11)
7. Leads you in the life of God (Rom 8:13-14)
8. Adoption, making you sons of God (Rom 8:14-15)
9. Bears witness to your identity and inheritance (Rom 8:16-17)
10. Helps our infirmities with intercession for us (Rom 8:26)

We are taught by Scripture (*inspired by the Holy Ghost*), that

... the Spirit helps with our flesh, fear, and flawed understanding.

... the Spirit teaches us about what God gives us (including life, peace, joy, hope, glory)

... the Spirit bears fruit in you according to the effectual working of God's word by faith.