

Romans 5:1-5

3 Reasons Believers Have Hope



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“Hope Is The Thing With Feathers” by Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land
And on the strangest sea,
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.



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Biblical Hope:

- Assurance and expectation of good in the future that gives strength in the present
- Continued faithfulness and confidence in Jesus while waiting for resolution and God's will to be done
- Belief that Jesus is sovereign and in control of all things

Believers Have Been Declared Not Guilty Of Sin

- (vv. 1-2) Paul here describes “justification”: at moment of conversion, a guilty sinner is declared “not guilty” of the penalty of sin and is forever more seen as holy in God’s eyes
- Believers go from being God’s enemy, to being credited with the righteousness of Jesus
- Believers then have peace with God and never have to worry about experiencing eternal punishment for sin

Believers Are In The Process Of Sanctification

- (vv. 3-4) Believers have hope for living because they gradually becoming more like Jesus
- Even trials/challenges are part of this process; all things used for ultimate good and have eternal value (Rom. 8:28)
- Troubles being used to mold/shape believers into being more like Jesus and maturing spiritually

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

“Therefore, we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things that are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

Believers Have Been Given The Gift Of The Holy Spirit

- (v. 5) Believers have genuine hope because God's presence has indwelt them and given them power for living
- Holy Spirit comforts, guides, leads into truth
- Holy Spirit produces spiritual fruits of Christ-like character; love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control