

“Hope That Does Not Lead to Shame”

Romans 5:5-11

February 21, 2021

Main idea - A Christian's hope of eternal glory will not be disappointed despite our ongoing sin.

I. Reason 1 - God has already communicated His love to us through the Holy Spirit. (v. 5)

- A. The Holy Spirit has assured us of the Father's ongoing love for us, resulting in our saving faith and continued comfort.
- B. Every Christian still needs to grow in their awareness of this ongoing love (2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 3:17-19).

II. Reason 2 - God has already demonstrated His love for us in Christ's death for us, even while still in our rebellious state. (vs. 6-8)

- A. It's barely imaginable that someone would make a considered choice to die even for a righteous person.
- B. It's unthinkable to imagine a righteous person dying for someone who hates them.
- C. Yet Christ loved us enough to die for us rebels, *before* we were made internally new by His Spirit.
- D. How much more will He continue to love us now?!

III. Reason 3 - The Living Christ continues to secure our final salvation. (vs. 9-11)

- A. Christ's death has already justified us and reconciled us to God.
- B. Christ's post-resurrection life continues to save us from God's wrath...

- 1. Through His work of intercession:

Hebrews 7:25 - Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

- a. Christ is our current Advocate (our Defense Attorney).

1 John 2:1b - And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

- b. Christ prays for us, especially when we sin.

Luke 22:32 - *but I have prayed for you [Peter], that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.*

2. Through His work in us to bear the fruit of salvation:

Philippians 1:9–11 - ⁹ *And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; ¹¹ having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*

Hebrews 13:20–21 - ²⁰ *Now may the God of peace...²¹ equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

- C. Let us rejoice in our great and sure hope!