

## Hope

### 1 Peter 1:3-8

## Hope

- ▶ By Definition –
  - ▶ “**Favorable** and **confident expectation**. It has to do with the **unseen** and the future,”  
(Vine’s) See Romans 8:22-26
  - ▶ “to **anticipate**, usually with pleasure; **expectation** or **confidence**”
  - ▶ “Desire + Expectation” (Strong’s)

## Hope

Lessons from 1st Peter Chapter 1.

- ▶ The **Nature** of our hope.
- ▶ The **Power** of our hope.
- ▶ The **Certainty** of our hope.
- ▶ The **Application** of our hope.
- ▶ The **Birth** of our hope.

## The Nature Of Our Hope –

**1 Peter 1:3-5 –**

- ▶ “... born again to a **living hope** ... an inheritance which is **imperishable** and **undefiled** and **will not fade away**, **reserved** in heaven for you ...”

## The Nature Of Our Hope –

**It is a “Living Hope” –**

- Because of what is hoped for, Eternal Life
- Titus 1:2-3, “in the hope of eternal life ...”
- Romans 2:5-7, John 6:68

## The Nature Of Our Hope –

**It’s “Imperishable” –**

- ▶ “not liable to corruption/decay, incorruptible”
- “... it is **exclusive of all of which we are aware in the material world**. All that we see, handle, taste, smell, hear in this material world is subject to perishing. Nothing is abiding.” *Clinton Hamilton*
- We hope for an “*imperishable crown*” (*1 Corinthians 9:25*) and an “*imperishable body*” (*1 Corinthians 15:52*)

## The Nature Of Our Hope –

### It's "Undefiled" –

- ▶ "Free from contamination" (Vine's); "Unsoiled" (Strong's)
- That which we hope for is "free from contamination" and so must we. (Revelation 21:27)
- Like a pure marriage relationship. Hebrews 13:4

## The Nature Of Our Hope –

### It will not "Fade Away" –

- ▶ Perennial, losing nothing of its' original glory/beauty.
- ▶ Our "**unfading crown of glory**" (1 Peter 5:4; cf. 2 Timothy 4:8).
- ▶ The glory of heaven will never be lost or diminished.

## The Power Of Our Hope –

### 1 Peter 1:6-9 –

- ▶ "though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable."
- ▶ Biblical hope: so powerful it will enable to bearer to endure the most difficult suffering.
- ▶ 1 Peter 2:19-20; 3:13-14, 17; 4:4, 12-13, 14-17

## The Power Of Our Hope –

### Why Might We Suffer?

- Whether it be for doing what is right, doing wrong or just what is common to life (1 Peter 2:20; 3:14-17; 4:13-16; Ecclesiastes 3)
- We need to consider ... Ecclesiastes 7:14
- Biblical hope is powerful enough to get us through suffering due to any of these reasons.
- Hope reminds us that suffering is temporary: 1 Peter 5:10
- It's our "anchor" in life! Hebrews 6:19

## The Certainty Of Our Hope –

### 1 Peter 1:10-12

- ▶ "As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful search and inquiry ... It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven – things into which angels long to look."

## The Certainty Of Our Hope –

- ▶ One's hope is only as good as the confidence we may have in that hope.
- ▶ As we understand the certainty of the prophetic word (cf. 2 Peter 1:19), we then must understand our responsibility to defend our hope.
  - ▶ 1 Peter 3:15; "but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to **make a defense**"
  - ▶ We **MUST** know the prophecies of the Old Testament which were fulfilled in Christ and in the establishment of the church.

## The Application Of Our Hope –

### I Peter 1:13-17

- ▶ “... **gird your minds** for action, keep sober in spirit ...”
- ▶ “... **do not be conformed** to the former lusts ...”
- ▶ “... **be holy** yourselves also in all your behavior ...”
- ▶ “... **conduct yourselves in fear** ...”

## The Application Of Our Hope –

### I Peter 1:13 – “gird your minds for action, keep sober in spirit ...”

- ▶ The battle to bring every thought captive (2 Corinthians 10:3-5) and
- ▶ Have our thinking be clear and “sober” (cf. I Peter 4:7 and 5:8; I Thessalonians 5:4-8)

## The Application Of Our Hope –

### I Peter 1:14 – “... do not be conformed to the former lusts ...”

- ▶ Our hope is to be an impetus for needed changes in our lives.
- ▶ Repentance is demanded. Acts 17:30; 26:20 – There is to be a “laying aside” of any sinful practices in our lives. Romans 12:1-2; Colossians 3:5-9; Romans 6:4

## The Application Of Our Hope –

### I Peter 1:15 – “... be holy yourselves also in all your behavior ...”

- ▶ Holy – “It signifies separation to God” <sup>(Vine’s)</sup>
- ▶ “**For I am holy**” – if we hope to be with Him.
- ▶ Hope drives us to be “a people for God’s own possession” – I Peter 2:9
- ▶ “**In all your behavior**” – 2 Peter 3:11-14
- ▶ Hope drives purity – I John 3:3

## The Application Of Our Hope –

### I Peter 1:17 – “... conduct yourselves in fear ...”

- ▶ We are to have great reverence and respect for Him who has given us such hope.
- ▶ Ecclesiastes 12:13, “The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.”
- ▶ Fear also translates to service and worship. Hebrews 12:28-29

## The Birth Of Our Hope –

Who has a right to such a hope and where does such hope come from?

### I Peter 1:18-25

- ▶ “... **redeemed** ... with precious blood ... the **blood of Christ**”
- ▶ “... you have in **obedience to the truth** purified your souls ...”
- ▶ “... **born again** ... through the living and **abiding word of God** ... which was **preached to you** ...”

### The Birth Of Our Hope –

- ▶ Redeemed by the **blood of Christ**
  - ▶ Acts 20:28; Eph. 1:7; I Peter 2:24
- ▶ Through our **obedience** to the truth
  - ▶ Obedience to the truth gives us hope.
  - ▶ Our appeal for a clear conscience. I Peter 3:18-21.
- ▶ How do we know what to obey?
  - ▶ The **word of God** which was **preached** to you.
  - ▶ Hear, believe and “heed” Romans 10:12-17

### The Birth Of Our Hope –

- ▶ Hope is **made possible** because Christ shed His blood for us.
- ▶ Hope is **born** when hear the message preached, believe it and thus obey the truth.
- ▶ Hope **continues** when we “continue in the faith” (Colossians 1:23) and we “hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering” (Hebrews 10:23).

### The Birth Of Our Hope –

It is on this basis that one can have such an **imperishable, undefiled and unfading** hope, that will enable us to **endure any degree of suffering** if we are willing to **apply our hope in holy conduct and behavior!**

Do you have this hope?

Did you have this hope and forsake it?