

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE  
WHAT WE NEED TO FINISH THE RACE  
A TOPICAL, DOCTRINAL STUDY  
ON THE KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

TAPE NUMBER WNX437 JULY 26 2006

*The Title Of The Message:*  
**OUR NEVER ENDING HOPE**  
*WHAT WE NEED IN THESE LAST DAYS*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:  
*Hope, Expectancy, Promise, Patience*

**Introduction to the Text: 1 Corinthians 13:13**

What We Need as Christians Today, Right Now  
is Not a Better Job or a Bigger House, It's not a New Car or a Membership  
to the Coolest Club. What We Need as Christians Today,  
Right Now is...

**A Clear and Biblical reminder of what it means  
to be a Christian in These Days!**

**1 Timothy 3:15**

But if I am delayed, *I write* so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in  
the house of God, which is the church of the living God,  
the pillar and ground of the truth.

**1 Corinthians 13:13**

And now abide faith, hope, love...

**1.) Faith / "Salvation" = *the aspects of a real living faith***

**1a.) We Looked at Faith / Salvation as a *Gift***

**1b.) We Looked at Faith / Salvation as a *Foundation***

1c.) We Looked at Faith / Salvation as the **Course**

1d.) We Looked at Faith / Salvation **what it looks like**

2.) Hope / "Sanctification" = **what it means to Christians**

2a.) Hope = **What is it in Actuality?**

What Our Hope is Actually In  
- ~~not a dream~~

What Hope Really Is  
*It is the simple belief that God,  
will do as He has Spoken*

2b.) Hope = **Where is it found?**

Our Hope Is Founded Upon  
What The Bible Has to Say  
- ~~not a story~~

Our Hope Is Founded Upon  
What The Bible Says  
Hope has been communicated to us by God  
in and through the Bible, the Word of God

Our "**Hope**" Equates to **Sanctification**  
Sanctification is the Work of Divine Grace  
Upon and Within the Christian Life.

**Thessalonians 5:23**  
Now may the God of peace Himself...  
**sanctify** you completely

**OUR NEVER ENDING HOPE**

2.) *Hope / "Sanctification" = what it means to Christians*

*Hope and The Christians' Sanctification*

**OUR NEVER ENDING HOPE**

*and what it means to the Christian*

2c.) *Hope = Why is it so important?*

"What's in Your Wallet"

means nothing in the realm of the Spirit. It's currency is useless!

**Your Hope is All Important Because...**

*Hope is the Very Thing  
That Glues God's Truth to Our Hearts and Minds*

**When We're Hope-Filled,**

(1) we're **Excited**, (2) we're **Creative**,  
(3) we're **Enthusiastic**, (4) we're **Responsive**,  
(5) we're **Energetic**, (6) we're **Daring**,  
(7) we're **Resilient**, (8) we're **Galvanized** !

Because of These Things, Hope is **Contagious**

Because of These Things, Hope is **Influential**

Because of These Things, Hope is **Vital**

Because of These Things, Hope is **Active**

Our Hope and it's Development  
is the single most valuable thing that we possess!

Why Our Hope Is So Important

Why is Our Hope So Important - **#1**

**It brings us to an Unshakable Rest**

*Regarding the hope of our resurrection from the dead*

### Acts 2:26

Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad;  
Moreover my flesh also will **rest in hope**.

### Hebrews 4:9-11

There remains therefore a **rest** for the people of God. :10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God *did* from His. :11 Let us therefore be diligent to enter that **rest**,

## Rest (grk. Recreation) Cannot Be Had Any Other Way

### Matthew 11:28-30

Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you (**calm, safe harbor**) **rest**. :29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find (**re-creation**) **rest**. for your souls. :30 For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light.”

### Hebrews 6:18-19

that by two immutable things, in which it *is* impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before *us*. :19 This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the *Presence* behind the veil,

## Why is Our Hope So Important - #2

### It Gives us a literal Target for Life

### 1John 3:2-3

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that **when He is revealed**, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. :3 And **everyone who has this hope** in Him (**when He is revealed**) purifies himself, just as Christ is pure.

### Colossians 1:26-27

The mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now **has been revealed** to His saints. :27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory**.

### 1Peter 1:3-4

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, :4 to an **inheritance** incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, **reserved in heaven for you**,

**Titus 3:5-7**

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, :6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, :7 that having been justified by His grace we become heirs according to **the hope of eternal life.**

**I as a Pastor, You as a Parent, We as Believers...**

**1Thessalonians 2:19**

For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Is it* not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

Why is Our Hope So Important - #3

**It Creates Perseverance in Our Lives**

With each passing of a generation, there seems to be a loss of discipline at living life. Today our kids are more advanced in technology as long as it works the first time. But to labor hard at something, to struggle at something, to earn something, - is almost lost today.

**It's a good thing to experience set backs.**

**It's a good thing to learn how to persevere through defeat.**

**It's a good thing to try again, and again, and again...**

**2Corinthians 1:7**

And our hope of you is steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation / salvation / comfort

**Phil. 3:10**

That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

**Romans 8:23-25**

Not only *that*, but we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. :24 For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? :25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.

Why is Our Hope So Important - #4

**It Keeps Our Eyes-Wide-Open to Spiritual Things**

**1Peter 3:15**

But **sanctify** the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for **the hope** that is in you, with meekness and fear;

### Titus 2:13-14

**Looking** for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, :14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

### 1Thessalonians 5:8-9

But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of **faith** and **love**, and as a helmet the **hope** of salvation. :9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

### Galatians 5:5

For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the **hope** of righteousness by **faith**.

### Hebrews 9:28

so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who **eagerly wait for Him** He will appear a second time, apart from sin, (*why will He appear?*) for salvation (*to complete salvations work, even sanctification*).

## Why is Our Hope So Important - #5

### It Causes Us to Be Confident about Our Faith

### Acts 4:12-13

#### Peter Preached a Powerful Salvation Message...

"There is no salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." :13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

### 2Corinthians 3:12

Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech—

### 1Peter 1:13

Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

### Luke 21:28

Now when these things begin to happen, **look up** and **lift up your heads**, because your redemption draws near."

We need to hear this right now  
Don't worry about the things that are happening today.

**When these things begin to happen  
the most active volcanoes in over 500 years. - Don't worry  
look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the earthquakes of super-sized proportions.* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the increase in tsunamis worldwide.* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the rumors of wars and the threat of nuclear disasters.* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the worldwide doctrine of terrorism and Ba'al worship.* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the most violent time in recorded human history* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the attack against Christians throughout the world.* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the hatred of the Jews and the nation of Israel.* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

When **these things** begin to happen  
*the acceptance of evil and the rejection of good.* - Don't worry  
**look up and lift up your head**

#### **Luke 21:28-31**

Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." :29 Then He spoke to them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. :30 When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. :31 So you also, when you see these things happening, **know** that the kingdom of God is near.

## **OUR NEVER ENDING HOPE**

***and what it means to the Christian***

**2d.) Hope = *Who* is it resting upon?**

## Why Our Hope is So Certain - #1

### Because It Rests Upon What Jesus Has Said

#### Matthew 17:22-23

Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, :23 and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up."

#### John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

## Why Our Hope is So Certain - #2

### Because It Rests Upon What Jesus Has Done

#### 2 Peter 1:11

for so an entrance will be supplied to you "abundantly" into the everlasting kingdom of our **Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**.

#### Colossians 2:13-14

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, :14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And he has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

## OUR NEVER ENDING HOPE

### *and what it means to the Christian*

#### **2d.) Hope = Who is it resting upon?**

## Why Our Hope is So Certain - #3

### Because It Rests Upon What Jesus Will Do

#### Phil. 3:20-21

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, :21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body,

#### Titus 2:13-14a

looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great **God and Savior Jesus Christ**, :14 who gave Himself for us, *that He might redeem us...*



## Why Our Hope So Certain - #4

### Because It Rests Upon What Jesus Is

***People, Ignorant of What The Bible Has to Say,  
Will Often Say That Jesus is One Among Many Enlightened Leaders.***

#### **John 1:29**

...The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

#### **Philippians 2:10-11**

That at the **name of Jesus** every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; **:11** And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### **Acts 4:12**

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

#### **1Timothy 4:10**

For to this *end* we both labor and suffer reproach, ***because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men,*** especially of those who believe.

#### **1Timothy 1:1**

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of **God our Savior** and the **Lord Jesus Christ**, our hope,

#### **1 John 4:4**

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent **The Son** as **Savior** of the world.

## **OUR NEVER ENDING HOPE**

***and what it means to the Christian***

***2d.) Hope = Who is it resting upon?***

## Why Our Hope So Certain - #5

### Because It Rests Upon What Jesus Loves

***Jesus Loves Me, This I Know,  
For the Bible Tells Me So***

**John 15:9**

“As the Father loved Me,  
I also have loved you; abide in My love.

**John 14:21b**

...And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father,  
and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

**John 15:12-13**

This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. :13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

**Our Hope and Whom It's In  
Is the Central Message to the World!**

**Phil. 3:7-9**

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. :8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ :9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is through faith in Christ*, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

**1Peter 1:21-23**

who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your **faith** and **hope** are in God. :22 ¶ Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere **love** of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, :23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

**Application:**

How do I develop more hope in my life?

**Hope** grows by placing more and more of your **faith** in God,  
but that takes a laboratory, a setting = *and life is it!*

**More Faith, More Hope, More Love**

Can only happen when you get out on the edge with God.  
"Spectator Christianity is so common and so very wrong."

**Are Others in This Church Dependant Upon You?  
Are Others in This Church Dependant Upon You?**

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Are Others in This Church Dependant Upon You?

It's the attempt to have others live out Christianity for you.  
That's an impossibility, it cannot happen. It will not happen.

**Matthew 25:24-30**

“Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. :25 And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, *there* you have *what is* yours.’ :26 “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. :27 So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. :28 So take the talent from him, and give *it* to him who has ten talents. :29 “For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. :30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

This is not a parable about losing your salvation,  
it's about "Spectator Christianity" The Plight of a "God Given life" that was never used  
for His glory, for His interests, for His purposes.

## God Has Given You a Life to be Lived,

How are you living it? What are you doing with it? Where are you going with it?

Your Life Cannot Lie, It is Your Reality,  
Is It About The Lord or Is It About You?

**Come Forward for Prayer  
or to Receive Jesus Christ**

*End of Study*