

## Strengthen Thy Brethern Lesson 3 – Be Strong In Hope

### Key Verses

**1 Peter 1:3-5** <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Peter is the Apostle of HOPE!!!

We are given hope when we place our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. **Notice the initial statement is one of worship.** Sometimes we forget that our relationship with God the Father needs to begin with worship.

**Psalm 103:1-2** <sup>1</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *ble*ss his holy name.  
<sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

**(1:3-5) Introduction— Hope:** What is the great hope of the believer? It is eternal life—the glorious privilege of living forever with God. Note that our hope is said to be a living hope.

⇒ A living hope means that it is not a dead, lifeless hope. A living hope means that it is not a probable hope; it is not the kind of hope that may or may not come to pass. It is not just a wish. The hope that God gives is a *living hope*, a hope that is real and true, that actually exists.

**1. (1:3) Hope, Believer's— Mercy:** there is the source of the hope. The source is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who is our Lord Jesus Christ.

⇒ He is our Lord, the One to whom we have surrendered and subjected our lives; the One who sits in the spiritual and heavenly world at the right hand of God the Father.

⇒ He is Jesus, the carpenter from Nazareth, the Man who claimed to be the Son of God and who was sent into the world as the Savior of men.

⇒ He is Christ the Messiah who was promised by God to save men.

This means a most wonderful thing: if we follow the Lord Jesus Christ, then the God and Father of Jesus Christ becomes our God and Father.

Now, **how does God** go about giving us the living hope of eternal life? This is a critical question, for when we look around our world all we see is corruption and death. **We are born and then before we know it, it is time to die.** How does God go about giving us the living hope of eternal life?

1. The **living hope comes by the mercy of God**. This is the basis of our hope; it could be no other way. **Man is just so sinful** he has only one hope: the hope that *God will have mercy upon him*. Just think how we have treated God. We have...

- ignored Him
- rebelled against Him
- neglected Him
- sinned against Him
- failed Him
- sinned against Him
- rejected Him
- disbelieved Him
- cursed Him
- turned away from Him
- disobeyed Him

The word "mercy" (*eleos*) means feelings of pity, compassion, affection, and kindness. It is a **desire to succor; to tenderly draw unto oneself and to care for:**

⇒ **God withholds His judgment.**

⇒ God **provides a way for us to be saved.**

*"But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children" (Psalm 103:17).*

**Romans 8:33-34**<sup>33</sup> Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth.<sup>34</sup> Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

2. The **living hope comes by the new birth**. Note the words **begotten again or born again**. There is no hope for eternal life unless **a person is born again** by the **Spirit of God**. A person has to be regenerated and made into a *new man* before he can ever live forever.

*"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17).*

*"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23).*

**Titus 3:5-7**<sup>5</sup> Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but **according to his mercy** he saved us, by the **washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;**<sup>6</sup> Which **he shed on us abundantly** through Jesus Christ our Saviour;<sup>7</sup> **That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

3. The **living hope comes by the resurrection of Jesus Christ** from the dead. Jesus Christ was raised from the dead to live forever in heaven with His Father. How does His resurrection give us the hope of living forever? By three things.
- a. First, **God has proven that He has the power to raise the dead.**
  - b. Second, the fact that God raised Jesus Christ from the dead proves that Jesus **Christ is exactly who He claimed to be:** the Son of God who came into the world to save men.
  - c. Third, **Jesus stands before God as the Perfect and Ideal Man.** What this means is most significant. Being the Perfect and Ideal Man, whatever He does is acceptable to God.

*"Moreover, brethren, **I declare unto you the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; by **which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures**" ([1 Cor. 15:1-4](#)).*

The **unsaved has no hope for they do not have Jesus.** They are **therefore lost in their sins and will receive the condemnation and judgment of God.**

**Jeremiah 18:12** <sup>12</sup> And they said, **There is no hope:** but we will walk after our own devices, and we will **every one do the imagination of his evil heart.**

**John 3:18** <sup>18</sup> He that **believeth on him is not condemned:** but **he that believeth not is condemned already,** because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

**Romans 5:18** <sup>18</sup> Therefore as by **the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation;** even **so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.**

## Our Salvation

2. (1:4) There is the inheritance of the hope. The **inheritance is the eternal life** that God gives us, but the inheritance of eternal life involves the most wonderful gifts imaginable.

### **There Shall Be the Inheritance of a New Nature or State of Being**

- ⇒ Being **adopted as a son of God** ([Galatians 4:4-7](#); [1 John 3:1](#)).
- ⇒ Being given a **glorious body** ([Phil. 3:11, 21](#); [1 Cor. 15:42-44](#)).
- ⇒ Being given **eternal glory and honor and peace** ([Romans 2:10](#)).
- ⇒ Being given **eternal rest and peace** ([Hebrews 4:9](#); [Rev. 14:13](#)).
- ⇒ Being given the **blessings of the Lord** ([Proverbs 10:22](#)).
- ⇒ Being given the **knowledge of Christ Jesus** ([Phil. 3:8](#)).
- ⇒ Being given **durable riches and righteousness** ([Proverbs 8:18](#)).
- ⇒ Being made **priests** ([Rev. 20:6](#)).
- ⇒ Being given a **crown of incorruption** ([1 Cor. 9:25](#)).
- ⇒ Being given a **crown of righteousness** ([2 Tim. 4:8](#)).
- ⇒ Being given a **crown of life** ([James 1:12](#)).
- ⇒ Being given a **crown of glory** ([1 Peter 5:4](#)).

*"To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you" ([1 Peter 1:4](#)).*

**Romans 10:9-13** <sup>9</sup> That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus**, and shalt **believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead**, thou **shalt be saved**. <sup>10</sup> For **with the heart man believeth unto righteousness**; and **with the mouth confession is made unto salvation**. <sup>11</sup> For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. <sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. <sup>13</sup> For **whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved**.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** <sup>8</sup> For **by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the **gift of God**: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast.

**John 3:1-16** <sup>1</sup> There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: <sup>2</sup> The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, **we know that thou art a teacher come from God**: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.** <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.** <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is **born of the Spirit is spirit.** <sup>7</sup> **Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.** <sup>8</sup> The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said unto him, **Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?** <sup>11</sup> **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.** <sup>12</sup> **If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?** <sup>13</sup> **And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, *even* the Son of man which is in heaven.** <sup>14</sup> **And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:** <sup>15</sup> **That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.** <sup>16</sup> **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

**1 Peter 1:22-23** <sup>22</sup> Seeing **ye have purified your souls** in **obeying the truth through the Spirit** unto **unfeigned love of the brethren**, *see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:* <sup>23</sup> **Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but **of incorruptible, by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

## Our Hope

Remember, Hope is not a wish or a dream that has not foundation, nothing for the outcome to be based upon. Our Hope is based upon Jesus, he is our firm foundation. We can have certainty in our faith because of the resurrection of Jesus, which proves that He is who He claimed to be.

**Ephesians 2:12-14** <sup>12</sup> That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

**1 Timothy 2:5** <sup>5</sup> For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

**3. (1:5) Hope, Believer's:** there is the assurance of the hope. How do we know for sure that we will receive the inheritance?

**1 Peter 1:5** <sup>5</sup> Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1. There is the assurance of God's power. God's power keeps us. The word "kept" (*phrouroumenous* [PWS: 2245](#)) means to guard; to garrison; to protect. God will see to it that we shall reach the glorious end of life: salvation. God Himself, in His sovereign and omnipotent power, will see to it that we

2. There is the assurance of faith. We are kept not only by God, but...
- by our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - by our faith in God's power.

No person shall ever receive the hope of eternal life or of God's glorious inheritance unless he truly believes in God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. [Belief in Christ is absolutely essential](#)

## Our Inheritance

1. Our inheritance is "**incorruptible**" The word means that **it cannot perish**; it does **not age, deteriorate, or die**;

2. Our inheritance is "undefiled". The word means that **it cannot be polluted or defiled, dirtied or infected**. It means that our inheritance will be without any flaw or defect; it will be perfectly free from sickness, disease, infections, accident, pollution, dirt—from any defilement whatsoever.

3. Our inheritance *does not fade away*. It **will last forever and ever**.

4. Our inheritance **is in heaven**; it is **reserved there for us**. God is simply waiting for us to finish our task here on earth and to come to Him. Then He will give us our inheritance.

**John 14:1-6** <sup>1</sup> Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also. <sup>4</sup> And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. <sup>5</sup> Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? <sup>6</sup> Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Speak about Mary's aunt Sylvia funeral – It was a sure hope. Because it was not based upon her works, although from a human perspective she was a fine woman, but the families hope is based upon the Lord Jesus.

**Titus 2:13** <sup>13</sup> Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

**Philippians 1:6** <sup>6</sup> Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

**1 Corinthians 2:9** <sup>9</sup> But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Much of the commentary comes from Preacher's Outlines and Sermon Bible