

## Romans Session 63

### The Security of Salvation 3

### The Believer's Hope of Glory

*Romans 5:2b-5a (NASB)*

<sup>2</sup> *and we exult in hope of the glory of God.*

<sup>3</sup> *And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;*

<sup>4</sup> *and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;*

<sup>5</sup> *and hope does not disappoint.*

As we continue this study in the Security of the Saints, we remind ourselves again of the 6 links Paul gives here to show us our security in Christ. They are as follows;

1. The Believers peace with God (5:1)
2. His standing in Grace (5:2a)
3. His hope of Glory (5:2b-5a)
4. His possession of Divine Love (5:5b-8)
5. His certainty of deliverance (5:9-10)
6. His Joy in the Lord (5:11)

We have talked about having peace with God, no longer at war with Him.

And we have talked about our standing in Grace. His Grace is sufficient to carry us through and give us access to the Throne of God. Access to His presence. All by Grace.

So, this session we want to begin looking at the Believers Hope of Glory!!

We have just read the scripture, the writings of Paul to the Roman Church. In this passage, we have the third link in the unbreakable chain which gives us reason to **exult** in our **hope of the Glory of God**.

Since every aspect of Salvation is solely the work of God, it therefore cannot be lost by us by anything we might do or say.

The end of that marvelous divine work is the ultimate glorification of every believer in Jesus Christ.

*Romans 8:29-30 (NASB)*

<sup>29</sup> *For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;*

<sup>30</sup> *and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.*

As the apostle, has already established, salvation is anchored in the past because Christ has made peace with God for all those who trust in Him, it is anchored in the present because, by Christ's continual intercession every believer now stands securely in God's grace, so now he proclaims that salvation is also anchored in the future. Because God gives every one of His children the unchangeable promise that one day they will be clothed with the Glory of His Own Son.

Now the word (exult), here, (**Kauchaomai**), denotes jubilation and rejoicing. The Christian has no reason to fear the future and every reason to rejoice in it, because he has the divinely-secured **hope** that his ultimate destiny is to share in the very **Glory of God**.

**Jesus Christ**, guarantees the believer's hope because He Himself is our hope.

**1 Timothy 1:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> *Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope,*

In His beautiful high priestly prayer, Jesu said to His heavenly father;

**John 17:22 (NASB)**

<sup>22</sup> *"The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one;*

The believer does not earn his future glory in heaven but will receive it from God's gracious hand, just as he received redemption when he first trusted in Christ and sanctification since.

**1 Peter 1:18-21 (NASB)**

<sup>18</sup> *knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,*

<sup>19</sup> *but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.*

<sup>20</sup> *For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you*

<sup>22</sup> *who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.*

**Colossians 3:4 (NASB)**

<sup>4</sup> *When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.*

**Hebrews 2:10 (NASB)**

<sup>10</sup> *For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.*

When our own perishable and mortal bodies one day are raised imperishable and immortal, they will be fit to receive and to display God's divine glory.

**Philippians 3:20-21 (NASB)**

<sup>20</sup> *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;*

<sup>21</sup> *who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.*

The Holy Spirit is also a guarantee of the believer's security;

**Ephesians 1:13-14 (NASB)**

<sup>13</sup> *In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you*

*were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,*

*<sup>14</sup> who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.*

As Paul explains to the Corinthian believers, our glorification begins, in part, even in our present earthly life;

**2 Corinthians 3:18 (NASB)**

*<sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.*

Because our human understanding is so imperfect, it is impossible for us to comprehend the wonder and magnitude of the **Glory of God**.

Nevertheless, we have the Lord's own assurance that one day we not only will behold His divine glory but will partake of it.

The **glory** of His own divine holiness and majestic perfection will radiate in us and through us for all eternity.

We will share God's own glory because we are predestined to do so;

**Romans 8:29b (NASB)**

*<sup>29</sup> He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son,*

Now God has so predestined us,

**Romans 9:23 (NASB)**

*<sup>23</sup> And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,*

In other words, God's own glory is manifested through His grace, through His sharing His divine glory with those who deserve only destruction;

**Romans 9:22 (NASB)**

*<sup>22</sup> What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction?*

Although their security rests entirely in the finished work of Christ and the sustaining power of Christ's Spirit, a Christian's outward living will testify to his inward spiritual life.

Obedience to the Lord does not preserve salvation, but it is an evidence of it.

Our perseverance in the faith does not maintain our salvation, but it is an outward proof of it.

Those who renounce Christ, whether by heretical words or by persistent ungodly living prove they never belonged to Him in the first place.

**1 John 2:19 (NASB)**

*<sup>19</sup> They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.*

The writer of Hebrews declares that;

*Hebrews 3:6 (NASB)*

<sup>6</sup> *but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house—whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.*

*Hebrews 3:14 (NASB)*

<sup>14</sup> *For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,*

Now he is not saying that our spiritual security rests in our own ability to hold fast to Christ but that our God-given ability to hold fast is evidence that we belong to Christ.

It is only His holding us fast that enables us to hold Him fast.

The two sides of Christian perseverance are this;

From the divine perspective, God holds believers;

From the human perspective, they hold on to Him, because of the strength His Holy Spirit provides.

In addition to exulting in our certain hope of the glory of God **we also exult in our tribulations.**

This is because they contribute to a present blessing and ultimate glory.

**Tribulations** (Thlipsis) has the underlying meaning of being under pressure and was used of squeezing olives in a press to extract the oil and of squeezing grapes to extract the juice.

The **Tribulations** of which Paul is speaking are not the troubles that are common to all mankind but the troubles that Christians suffer for the sake of their Lord.

One of the less attractive promises that Scripture gives believers is that those who are faithful can be certain of being under pressure from Satan and from the present world system that is under his control.

*2 Timothy 3:12 (NASB)*

<sup>12</sup> *Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.*

The last Beatitude, which is as long as all the others together, contains the promise that persecution brings God's blessing;

*Matthew 5:10-12 (NASB)*

<sup>10</sup> *"Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

<sup>11</sup> *"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.*

<sup>12</sup> *"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

Because that beatitude is humanly so unappealing, it is given twice, and is accompanied by the admonition to rejoice, and be glad, when persecution comes (12)

Persecution for Christ's sake in this life is itself an earnest or guarantee of our future glory;

Paul assures us;

*2 Corinthians 4:17 (NASB)*

*<sup>17</sup> For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,*

Persecution for Christ's sake is evidence that we are living Christ-like lives.

Jesus said as a way of reminder;

*John 15:20 (NASB)*

*<sup>20</sup> "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.*

The Christian not only should rejoice in **tribulations** because those hardships are evidence of faithful living which is blessed and rewarded, but also because of the spiritual benefits they produce;

*Romans 5:3-5a (NASB)*

*<sup>3</sup> And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;*

*<sup>4</sup> and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;*

*<sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint.*

Our afflictions for Christ's sake produce ever-increasing blessings. It should not seem strange, then, that God's children are destined for affliction in this life

*1 Thessalonians 3:3 (NASB)*

*<sup>3</sup> so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we have been destined for this.*

Our hope of the glory of God is increased and strengthened by our heavenly Father through the process of tribulation, perseverance, and proven character.

The, product, of which is **hope that does not disappoint.**

The more a believer pursues holiness, the more he is persecuted and troubled and the greater will be his hope as he is sustained through it all by God's powerful grace.