**The Love of God in Our Hearts**

*Romans 5:5-11*

**Introduction**

1. Start intro after – II. The Confidence of Hope
2. We often make and are given promises – when a promise is given, hope is bred (not yet attainted, but expected).
3. Sometimes hope disappoints.
4. Hope varies in strength depending on the giver of a promise:
	1. What has the giver of the promise done to elicit confident hope in us?
5. Love expressed toward us both in the past and present is certainly something which breeds confidence in the receiving of the object of our hope.
6. Example – A father promises a son to play with him at a certain time.
	1. Son may have hope but expects to be disappointed – due to the father’s failures and disappointments in the past.
	2. Son may have confident hope – due to the father’s overwhelming displays of love, and consistency of doing so.
7. Our heavenly Father – **Romans 5:5** – explained in **vv. 6-11**
8. The Joy of Hope **(vv. 1-4)**
9. Obtained Through Faith **(vv. 1-2)**
	1. Justified by faith:
		1. **4:5-8** – Made just by the forgiveness of God given through faith in Him.
		2. **4:16** – Like the faith of Abraham.
	2. Peace with God – no longer at enmity because of sin.
	3. Current rejoicing in the favor of the justification of God – concerning hope
		1. Concerning the promised glorification of His children – **8:16-18, 29-30**
		2. **cf. 1 John 3:2** – we shall be like Him.
		3. We highly anticipate this glorious day, and long for it – **2 Corinthians 5:4**
10. Strengthened Through Tribulation **(vv. 3-4)**
	1. Also, glory (rejoice) in tribulation.
	2. Why?
		1. Tribulation – produces – perseverance (endurance)
		2. Perseverance – produces – character (Proven character)
		3. Character – produces – hope
	3. Hope is found at the point of justification in Christ Jesus by faith, but it is grown and solidified through trial:
		1. **Hebrews 6:11-12** – to the full assurance
		2. “to” – *pros* – a preposition of direction; forward to, i.e. toward. (Strong)
11. The Confidence of Hope **(v. 5)**
12. “Now hope does not disappoint”
	1. Hope sometimes disappoints:
		1. Hope against hope.
		2. Hope for the best but expect the worst.
	2. A large concept of hope contains an expectation of, or at the very least an acknowledged possibility of failure.
	3. The hope of God is truly hope – *elpis* – expectation or confidence (Strong).
13. “because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts”
	1. I.e. the love God has for us has been expressed toward us in redemption.
	2. Hearts – figuratively used for the mind.
14. “by the Holy Spirit who was given to us”
	1. Love poured into our hearts (minds) by the Holy Spirit.
	2. Through the Spirit’s revelation of God’s word:
		1. **1 Corinthians 2:9-10** – i.e. the gospel plan of salvation through Christ.

(INTRODUCTION HERE)

1. The Love of God in Our Hearts **(vv. 5-11)**
2. Christ Died for Us **(vv. 6-10)**
	1. **(v. 8)** – love of God demonstrated toward us.
	2. The Plan – ***“in due time”*** **(v. 6)**
		1. “due time” – *kairos*; an occasion, i.e. set or proper time. (Strong)
		2. Shows us:
			1. God planned – **2 Timothy 1:9** – purpose in Christ before time began – SHOWS CONSIDERATION.
			2. God executed it with perfect timing:
				1. A proper time for everything – **Ecclesiastes 3:1**
				2. God’s timing was perfect – **Galatians 4:4-5**
				3. Why? Not explained in detail other than God being infinitely wise, so the timing was proper.
				4. Consider – “All we are able to say is that God knew when the proper time had arrived. Judaism was bankrupt, and paganism had always been so. We can enumerate some of the providences which helped to open the way for the gospel such as the vast extent of the Roman Empire, the spread of the Greek language, the facility of travel throughout the empire, the extensive diaspora of the Jews, its many proselytes from Gentilism, etc. All of these aided the spread of the gospel. What God saw and regarded as the fulness of the time in the spiritual condition of men, barbarian as well as Greek, is too difficult for us to predicate because his thoughts and judgments are too unsearchable for us. Paul, too, refrains from stating details.” (Lenski’s Commentary on the New Testament; Galatians 4:4)
				5. SHOWS CARE (not rash and reckless, but deliberate and efficient)
	3. For who?
		1. A Contrast **(v. 7)**
			1. ***“For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.” (NASB)***
			2. ***“Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.” (NIV)***
			3. Righteous – as it pertains to law simply.
				1. “as Paul here uses the term, a righteous man is one who acts on the cold principle of justice. Such a man neither gives nor takes.” (R.L. Whiteside, Commentary on Romans, pg. 118)
				2. Admired, but would not die for him.
			4. Good – as it pertains to the deeds for men.
				1. “the good man is more than just; he is kind, amiable, and generous. He is devoted to the welfare and happiness of others.” (ibid.)
				2. Has our affection, and we might dare die for him.
			5. BUT CHRIST DIED FOR…
		2. Ungodly **(v. 6)**
			1. Ungodly – *asebes*, “impious, ungodly”, “without reverence for God,” not merely irreligious, but acting in contravention of God’s demands. (Vine)
			2. ALL were ungodly in sin – did not revere God, and openly rebelled against His will. (I know, but don’t care.)
			3. Both Gentile and Jew – **Romans 1:18-21; 2:23-24**
		3. Still Sinners **(v. 8)**
			1. Focus not simply on the noun (sinners), but on the state of time (still).
			2. ***(v. 6) – “when we were still without strength”*** – lost and helpless in our sins.
			3. Presently guilty, and actively transgressing.
			4. Consider the words of the thief as Jesus died for them – **Luke 23:39-42**
		4. Enemies **(v. 10)**
			1. Not simply without reverence concerning God (ungodly), or His will (sinner), but directly opposed to Him (enemy).
			2. Not for Him, then against Him – **Matthew 12:30**
			3. Not merely neutral, but actively opposed by our sin.
	4. The Efficacy of His Death **(vv. 9-10)**
		1. ***“Christ died for [these]”*** – note the language – He died instead, or in our place – **Isaiah 53:4-6; 2 Corinthians 5:21**
		2. **(v. 9)** – justified – once guilty, now stand just.
		3. **(v. 10)** – reconciled, brought back to God – no longer enemies.
			1. Graced with the benefits of fellowship with God.
3. Christ Lives for Us **(vv. 9-11)**
	1. Saved by His Life **(vv. 9-10)**
		1. **4:25** – not justified without His resurrected life.
		2. ***“much more”*** – i.e. in comparison to the efficacy of His death.
			1. His death – **2 Corinthians 13:4** (in weakness); **Philippians 2:8** (“even;” emphasis); **1 Corinthians 1:23** (stumbling block, foolishness)
			2. If His death, as weak as it appeared, had such power to reconcile us to God, HOW MUCH MORE SHALL THE POWER OF HIS LIFE WORK FOR OUR SALVATION? **(v. 9** – SAVE US FROM WRATH)
		3. His life – **2 Corinthians 13:4** (lives by the power of God); **Romans 1:4** (declared Son of God with Power)
			1. **Romans 8:11** – gives life to us – ultimately to use our bodies for righteousness. (dead to sin, alive to God)
			2. **2 Corinthians 4:10** – His life is manifested in our bodies.
		4. Saved by His life, **(v. 9** – FROM WRATH) in His:
			1. Resurrection – **Ephesians 1:19-20** – works in us who believe. (Power of hope – our own resurrection; **1 Corinthians 15:56-58**)
			2. His Kingly Rule **– Acts 2:36; 5:29-31** – Lord and Christ, Prince and Savior, obey God rather than men.
			3. High Priesthood:
				1. **Hebrews 7:23-25** – always lives to make intercession.
				2. **Hebrews 4:14-16** – available to sympathize with us and aid us in need.
				3. **1 John 2:1-2** – is still the propitiation for our sins.
			4. Conclusion – through the resurrected life of Christ, God is able:
				1. To save to the uttermost – **Hebrews 7:25**
				2. Keep you from stumbling – **Jude 24**
				3. Sanctify you completely, and preserve you blameless – **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**
				4. Perfect, Establish, Strengthen, and Settle you – **1 Peter 5:10**
	2. We also rejoice! **(v. 11)**
		1. We not only can rejoice in the prospective hope of heaven **(vv. 2, 5)**, but in what we have now in Christ.
		2. Reconciliation – we have fellowship with God now, and all the benefits!
		3. If we have such from God now, we can have confidence in receiving the object of our hope.

**Conclusion**

1. Through the redemption that is in Christ by faith, God has reconciled us to Himself and given us the blessed hope of a glorious body whereby we can inhabit heaven.
2. This hope is sure and steadfast, it is a confident assurance we have, because God has poured out His love in our hearts through His inspired word.
3. Our study and meditation of the love of God expressed in the death and resurrection of Christ will grant us immense confidence concerning the hope of heaven as we continue faithfully before God.