

ALL MY HOPE IS IN JESUS

Introduction

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

¹² Now we ask you, brothers, to give recognition to those who labor among you and lead you in the Lord and admonish you, ¹³ and to regard them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴ And we exhort you, brothers: warn those who are irresponsible, comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵ See to it that no one repays evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good for one another and for all.

¹⁶ Rejoice always!

¹⁷ Pray constantly.

¹⁸ Give thanks in everything,
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹ Don't stifle the Spirit.

²⁰ Don't despise prophecies,

²¹ but test all things.

Hold on to what is good.

²² Stay away from every kind of evil.

²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely. And may your spirit, soul, and body be kept sound and blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it. ²⁵ Brothers, pray for us also. ²⁶ Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. ²⁷ I charge you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the brothers. ²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

I. Rejoice In All Things

Acts 16: 25

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

2 Corinthians 11:23-28

Are they servants of Christ?

I'm talking like a madman—I'm a better one:

with far more labors,

many more imprisonments,

far worse beatings, near death^[a] many times.

²⁴ Five times I received 39 lashes from Jews.

²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods by the Romans.

Once I was stoned by my enemies.^[b]

Three times I was shipwrecked.

I have spent a night and a day

in the open sea.

²⁶ On frequent journeys, I faced

dangers from rivers,

dangers from robbers,

dangers from my own people,

dangers from the Gentiles,

dangers in the city,

dangers in the open country,

dangers on the sea,

and dangers among false brothers;

²⁷ labor and hardship,

many sleepless nights, hunger and thirst,

often without food, cold, and lacking clothing.

²⁸ Not to mention^[c] other things, there is the daily pressure on me: my care for all the churches.

Acts 5:40-41

After they called in the apostles and had them flogged, they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. ⁴¹ Then they went out from the presence of the Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to be dishonored on behalf of the Name.

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

James 1:2-3

Consider it a great joy, my brothers, whenever you experience various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

1 Peter 1:3-9

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. According to His great mercy, He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, uncorrupted, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.⁵ You are being protected by God's power through faith for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.⁶ You rejoice in this,^[a] though now for a short time you have had to struggle in various trials⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—more valuable than gold, which perishes though refined by fire—may result in^[b] praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.⁸ You love Him, though you have not seen Him. And though not seeing Him now, you believe in Him and rejoice with inexpressible and glorious joy,⁹ because you are receiving the goal of your^[c] faith, the salvation of your souls.

Romans 5:3-4

And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance,⁴ endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope.

Isaiah 61:10

I greatly rejoice in the LORD,
I exult in my God;

II. Always Be In Prayer

Psalms 143:1

LORD, hear my prayer.
In Your faithfulness listen to my plea,
and in Your righteousness answer me.

Ephesians 6:18

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.¹

Psalms 86:3

Be gracious to me, Lord,
for I call to You all day long.

2 Timothy 1:3

I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience as my ancestors did, when I constantly remember you in my prayer's night and day.

1 Chronicles 16:11

Search for the LORD and for His strength;
seek His face always.

Martin Luther

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

A day without morning and evening prayers and personal intercessions is actually a day without meaning or importance.

¹Ephesians 6:18 NIV-And pray in the Spirit on all occasions-Bible Gateway

III. IN Everything, Give Thanks

Romans 8:28

We know that all things work together^[a] for the good^[b] of those who love God: those who are called according to His purpose

1 Chronicles 16:34

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
His faithful love endures forever.

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him,

Psalms 100:4

Enter His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him and praise His name.

Tony Evans

“God says to give thanks in everything. That does not mean you need to give thanks FOR everything. You do not need to give thanks FOR that bad day. Or FOR that bad relationship. Or being passed over at work. Financial hardship. Whatever it is – you are not to give thanks FOR the difficulties, but rather IN the difficulties. That is a very important distinction, and one I think we often miss. Giving thanks IN everything shows a heart of faith that God is bigger than the difficulties and that He can use them, if you approach Him with the right heart and spirit, for your good and His glory.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich!”

Billy Graham

“A spirit of thankfulness is one of the most distinctive marks of a Christian whose heart is attuned to the Lord. Thank God in the midst of trials and every persecution.”

Conclusion

Charles Spurgeon

“Without Christ there is no hope.”