

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What is hope? Spiritual hope?
2. How is spiritual hope obtained?
3. What does spiritual hope do for a person?
4. How is hope the anchor of the soul?
5. What are the real goals of spiritual hope?

### SUMMARY:

When we think of an anchor, we immediately think of something strong enough to keep our boat from drifting. Hope is the soul's sure anchor that will keep our ship of faith secure.

Our afflictions are really light and insignificant compared to the eternal weight of glory. (2 Corinthians 4:17) Therefore, we should rejoice in tribulation because patience develops strength of character and helps us trust God more each day. Steel is made harder and stronger by exposure to fire. In the same manner, our faith in Christ becomes stronger when we undergo trials, and our hope will be sure and steadfast as an anchor of the soul.

### NOTES:

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #1

July 4, 2004

Third Quarter

### HOPE

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**LESSON TEXT:** 2 Corinthians 4:1-18; 5:1-10

**LESSON SETTING:** Written by Paul, probably at Philippi.

**TIME:** Approximately 60 A.D.

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#### I. THE SOURCE OF HOPE. 2 Corinthians 4:1-8

- A. Christ Divine (vs. 4) John 1:1-2; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 1:3
- B. Preaching Christ (vs. 5) Acts 10:36; 1 Corinthians 1:23
- C. Power of God (vs. 7) 1 Chronicles 29:12; Luke 1:37

#### II. THE TRIUMPH OF HOPE. 2 Corinthians 4:8-18

- A. Spiritual Hope (vs. 8) Romans 8:18-25
- B. Promises of Victory (vs. 9) Luke 10:19; Romans 8:35-37

#### III. THE GOAL OF HOPE. 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

- A. Heavenly Home - John 14:2; Luke 10:20
- B. Spiritual Body - 1 Corinthians 15:44; Philipppians 3:21
- C. Resurrection - John 6:40; Acts 24:15; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
- D. White Raiment - Revelation 3:5; 7:9

**GOLDEN TEXT: BE OF GOOD COURAGE, AND HE SHALL STRENGTHEN YOUR HEART, ALL YE THAT HOPE IN THE LORD.**

Psalm 31:24

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** James 1:1-21

**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Proverbs 1:10-16; 4:14-27;  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13

**QUARTERLY THEME:** Marks of a Christian

**TOPIC: VICTORY**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Victory is the overcoming of the devil, the world, and the flesh. Overcoming results in eternal life and we read in Revelation "that he who overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death (2:11), shall be given the hidden manna and a white stone (2:17), power over the nations (2:26), clothed in white raiment (3:5), be a pillar in the temple of my God (3:12), and granted to sit with Christ on His throne" (3:21).

Not only are all the blessings of victory for the next life, but also for this life. We are promised victory over Satan, the world, and our own flesh. His grace is promised to be sufficient (2 Corinthians 12:9), we are to be strengthened with might by His Spirit (Ephesians 3:16) and God shall supply all our needs (Philippians 4:19).

In all temptations He promises to help us. These promises we can claim only if we live a completely yielded life, leaving all in His hands and being fully dependent upon Him and a life of faith . . . "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." (1 John 5:4b) "But thanks be to God which giveth us the victory." (1 Corinthians 15:57)

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** God promises great blessings to those who live overcoming lives.

***GOLDEN TEXT: BLESSED IS THE MAN THAT ENDURETH TEMPTATION FOR WHEN HE IS TRIED, HE SHALL RECEIVE THE CROWN OF LIFE, WHICH THE LORD HATH PROMISED TO THEM THAT LOVE HIM.***

James 1:12

When there is no battle there can be no victory. God allowed man to choose through disobedience, to know good and evil. As James has written, God does not tempt man to evil, but allows Satan through our fleshly desires to tempt us, thereby showing us that we need God's help to overcome evil. God permitted Satan to try Job, only to provide something more for Job after his victory.

The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness where He met Satan face to face, to overcome his temptations by the power of God's Word.

Paul endured all manner of trial and testing, yet could write, "and the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His heavenly kingdom: To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (2 Timothy 4:18)

None will there be crowned that day,  
None eternal life secureth,  
Save who battled in the fray,  
And who scorn and shame endureth  
These shall there a laurel wear  
Brighter than the morning fair.

Z.H. 105:2

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF July 5 - 11**

- M. Rejecting Evil Brings Victory. Proverbs 1:10-16
- T. Following Light Brings Victory. Proverbs 4:14-19
- W. Righteous Living Brings Victory. Proverbs 4:20-27
- T. Obeying God Brings Victory. 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
- F. \*Faith Brings Victory. James 1:1-8
- S. \*Enduring Temptation Brings Victory. James 1:9-12
- S. \*Divine Help Brings Victory. James 1:13-21