**THE BIBLE HOPE FOR ALL:**

Scripture reading: Romans 15:1-5

Theme: PATIENCE, COMFORT, and HOPE from the Scriptures

Author: Addie Burt (Full Gospel Church of God)

Sermon outline

The Charles Spurgeon Sermon Collection affirms the following:

*”The Apostle Paul was an Inspired man when he wrote this Epistle, so there was no necessity on the part of the Holy Spirit, when guiding his mind and pen, to employ words which had been used before in the Scriptures, for His language is unlimited. Yet Paul, Inspired as he was, frequently quoted from the Old Testament and in the verse preceding our text he quotes from the Psalms – “As it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached You fell on Me.” One special reason for quoting from the Old Testament was, doubtless, to put honor upon it, for the Holy Spirit foresaw that there would be some in these later days who would speak of it disparagingly. Not so did our Lord Jesus Christ! Not so did His Apostles! Not so did any by whom the Holy Spirit spoke!”.*

God's word, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, is the only true way to change the human heart to receive salvation. Salvation by faith is a specific moment, while the rejuvenation of the mind is a continual process. Paul encourages us to be dedicated, to change into His Holiness, "to be like Jesus" other than the world. The Word is the key to a more dynamic relationship with the Lord.

It is through patience and comfort and hope of the scriptures - that we might have hope that we shall be upheld and blessed as the saints were. Our sufferings become the means of our greater progress in faith and holiness, and as a result, our hope of eternal glory is securely confirmed. Scripture provides and enriches the grace of the Lord so that by patience (steadfastness) and encouragement from the Scriptures you may have hope.

**1. PATIENCE.**

Scripture is patient with us, it encourages us to stay steadfast (patient), it's subject to God's will, it is continually challenged by human prosecution and demonic positions. The scripture's patience is tested when we as humans experience the troublesomeness of the world and we, in anticipation for the divine promises to be fulfilled, begin to doubt

The Scriptures are patient as can be seen in what they reveal in examples. Job under much afflictions waits patiently for the outcome. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob wait patiently as travellers within Gods plan, implementing the covenant promise given in a strange land.

Joseph waits patiently to forgive his brothers for their evildoings. David, during many trials and among many curses, waited patiently for the crown, in the process he refuses to avenge to his pursuers.

Our Saviour waits patiently in the midst of many persecutions, until the "Hour" dawns. Scripture is patient, and throughout our trials, the word reveals the plan of God to make our relationship steadfast with God. It declares to us His promises of a heavenly future that far surpasses our current situation.

**2. COMFORT.**

We are encouraged to live above our fears. *Ps 46:1-4 God is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. So we will not be afraid, even if the earth is shaken and mountains fall into the ocean depths; even if the seas roar and rage, and the hills are shaken by the violence. There is a river that brings joy to the city of God, to the sacred house of the Most High.*

God’s word is a comfort when worldly things want to sink us. It commands us to find our joy in God. It stimulates us to rejoice under tribulations, it makes us to compare to the prophets of old. Enoch’s walking with God. Abraham finds God as his shield and exceeding great reward. David strengthened himself in God. Hezekiah spreads his letter before the Lord. Many other cases are recorded, and these comfort and stimulate our courage.

By the knowledge that we receive we are guided in all truth. That's our comfort, that we are secure to pursue holiness, to experience comfort in meekness, to experience the grace and fullness of the word. The comforting word enlightens our mind to live in happiness, to be a testimony every day, through the comforting inspired forceful word.

**3. HOPE.**

The scriptures are set to provide hope, see what God has done for his people, there is hope!

We believe in the promises of the word, there is hope!

We enjoy the daily blessing that is poured out on us, there is hope!

Scripture is intended to work in to bring hope. People with hope will purify themselves, and will in many other ways rise to a high and righteous character. By the hope of the Scriptures we understand what they have in store for us, now and in the future.

The Blessed hope of salvation: 1Thess 5:8-11 *But we belong to the day, and we should be sober. We must wear faith and love as a breastplate, and our hope of salvation as a helmet. God did not choose us to suffer his anger, but to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us in order that we might live together with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes. And so encourage one another and help one another, just as you are now doing.*

The Blessed hope of Glory:Tit 2:12-13 *That grace instructs us to give up ungodly living and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this world, as we wait for the blessed Day we hope for, when the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ will appear.*

***(AMP) Titus 2:13*** *Awaiting and looking for the [fulfilment, the realization of our] blessed hope, even the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One),*

The Hope of the resurrection: Col 1:18 *And when it comes to the church, he organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body. He was supreme in the beginning and--leading the resurrection parade--he is supreme in the end. From beginning to end he's there, towering far above everything, everyone. (MSG)*

The Hope of glory: Col 1:27 *To whom God was pleased to make known how great for the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ within and among you, the Hope of [realizing the] glory.*

*2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed.*

A hero’s acknowledgement for steadfastness in Patience, Comfort and Hope in scripture, please read the following scriptures*:*

*Hebrews 11:1-5,7-8,11,17,20-24, 27,29-32.*

*v :1 To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see.*

*v :2 It was by their faith…….*

*v:32 Should I go on? There isn't enough time for me to speak of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets.*

Our modern problems must be met with responsiveness, with firmness, with practical purpose, with proper regard to history, and with submission to the revealed truth of Scripture. The patience, comfort, and hope from the Scriptures, in communion with Christ and by the power of the Spirit of God, enables us to be victorious.

Our fellowship is with the Lord of patience, comfort and hope. Let us rise to the joy of the Lord, step by step in the joy of the Lord, because His word never disappoints. The word, our hope for all is today, tomorrow and evermore steadfast, unchangeable, it's reliable, the source of all steadfastness and encouragement.

The Charles Spurgeon Sermon Collection concludes the following:

*May the Holy Spirit bring you to repent of sin, to believe in Jesus, to cast yourselves wholly upon Him–may He, by His Grace, cut the links which now bind you to the world and enable you to give yourselves up wholly to Christ, that He may save you! May the Lord do this in His infinite mercy, for Christ’s sake! Amen.*