



The Full Gospel Church

Vol. X Number 4

January 22, 2006

HOPE

We have a hope that the world does not have. We have an assurance that the world does not have. Whereas the world depends upon their wealth, standing, strength, and all other abilities, we have a hope that the world cannot see. Our hope is in the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost. Our hope rests with the eternal and not the temporal attributes of the world.

Romans 8:1-39

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

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20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,

21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

32 He that spared not his own Son, but deliv-

ered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The world does not know, see, or imagine what we hope. The world sees us as having our heads in the clouds looking for a pie in the sky. The Bible tells us that the world cannot see our hope because they do not believe in the Spirit. They cannot imagine spiritual things. Their whole world is wrapped up with the world that they can see, feel, touch, and experience.

Where we have spiritual and carnal experiences, the world only has the carnal. The world cannot fathom a world that has a Spiritual being called the Holy Ghost intervening in our behalf. The world's view is that we believe in something that for them is not real.

I will tell you that anyone who has experienced the Holy Ghost for themselves knows

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that the gift of the Spirit is real. All of us who have witnessed the power of the Holy Ghost know for sure that the power is real and not imagined. Though the world cannot see the power, it is still vibrant and real.

While the world may look at our hope as being a pie in the sky, those of us who have received the gift of the Holy Ghost know that it is for real. Though our hope is not seen, that does not make it unattainable. For we have placed our trust into the hands of the one who spoke our universe into existence. We have placed our hope into the hands of the one who gave his life on the cross so that we might live. Jesus' death and resurrection on the cross has given us the hope that the world cannot see. Jesus even sent his own Spirit to us so that we might experience a spiritual world while living here on earth.

Jesus has given us the hope of having eternal life with him. While the world thinks that when a person dies that is the end, the Spirit-filled Christian saint knows as the Apostle Paul knew that death is a promotion to a higher calling.

Philippians 1:21-23

21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

22 But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.

23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

Paul sought death for he considered it to be a promotion to eternal life. When the Apostle Paul wrote this to the Philippians, he was on the road to be beheaded by Nero. So Paul thought that it was better to die than to go on living in this world of grief and heartache.

When Paul wrote, "To die is gain," he was going to be executed as an enemy of Rome. Here he was a free-born citizen on the way to his execution. How many people would consider being executed by the state to be a promotion? If we emulate the Apostles, then we certainly consider it to be an honor. For the world does not deem the born-again Christian as an honorable being.

Just look at the news reports poking fun and ridicule at the Christian fundamentalists who protest against the murder of the unborn. The world does not consider that a human has a soul that will live through eternity. The world considers death as the end, not as a beginning. The Christian views death as the beginning of their eternal life. The experiences on the earth were just training for a life without time.

Thus the born-again Christian has a hope that the world cannot see or imagine. The Christian is a living testimony of the eternal hope that the Lord has given us. The Christian continues to tell the world that they are wrong and are bound for a lake of fire while the Christian is on the road to eternal life. The Chinese and the Soviet Union could not extinguish the flames of Christianity. The Muslims try to extinguish Christianity in their countries with little luck. When you fight against God you lose. The Soviet Union lost, and all other nations who reject Christianity will lose. The countries who fight against Israel will find themselves destroyed.

With all of this evidence throughout the ages, the flame of Christianity cannot ever be extinguished!

The world hopes for death while the Christian hopes for life everlasting.

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Sunday Morning Worship 12:00 Noon
Sunday Evening 6:30 PM
Wednesday Evening 7:30 PM

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