

“The Hope Of Eternal Life”
Titus 1:2

Introduction:

1. In Our Series On “Our Blessed Hope” As Christians:
 - We Are Now Looking At:
 - The Seven “Points Of Hope” That We Find:
 - Especially In The New Testament!
 - We Have Already Explored:
 - Our Hope Of The Gospel:
 - Colossians 1:23 - “Be not moved away from the hope of the gospel!”
 - Our Hope Of Salvation:
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:8 - “But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation!”
2. Tonight - We Will Consider:
 - The Third Point:
 - Which We Find In Titus 1:1-3 - “Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; / ***In hope of eternal life***, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; / But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour!”
 - The “Hope Of Eternal Life” - Which We Read:
 - In 1:2 - Is Another One Of The:
 - Great Future Hopes & Guarantees
 - For Those Who “Believe On The Lord Jesus Christ” And Are “Saved!”
 - After All - Didn’t Jesus Himself Tell Us:
 - In John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life!”
 - Our Faith In Christ Produces This Hope From Christ!
 - To Have “Eternal Life!”
3. And We Know From Our Own Experience:

1. *The Pursuit Of This Hope:*

- For Eternal Life!
 - There Are Many Who Have A Desire For:
 - Eternal Life!
 - Matthew 19:16 - “And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?”
 - **IE:** The Explorer Ponce De Leon, Who Sailed With Columbus On His Second Voyage In 1493, Became A Wealthy And Respected Governor Of The Island Of Puerto Rico - After Hearing Of The Possibility Of “A Continual Spring Of Running Water, Of Such Marvelous Virtue That The Water Thereof Being Drunk Perhaps With Some Diet, Maketh Old Men Young Again” - He Sent Out 3 Ships At His Own Expense To Discover The Riches Of South Florida, Including This “Fountain Of Youth” - He, As Well As Others, Sought This Because Of Their Desire To Be “Timeless!”
 - They Were Pursuing After:
 - Eternal Life!
- But Why?
 - There Is A Natural Dimension:
 - To This Desire & Pursuit!
 - Most People Want To Live For A Purpose!
 - Most People Don’t Want To Think That This Life:
 - With All Of Its Ups & Downs:
 - **IE:** Think About The Pyramids In Egypt:
 - Tombs / Yet Preparation For An After-Life!
 - Preparations For Future / Hope For Future!
 - Animals Don’t Have This Desire & Drive!
 - What Makes Man Different?
 - Not Just A Natural Desire:
- But:

- There Is A Spiritual Dimension:
 - To This Desire & Pursuit:
 - As Well!
 - Because God Had Created & Designed Man To Possess This Desire!
- Ecclesiastes 3:11 - "He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end!"
 - "World" Can Also Be Translated "Eternity!"
 - "He Hath Set Eternity In Their Heart!"
- Albert Barnes:
 - "The word, translated "world" in the text, and "eternity" in this note, is used seven times in Ecclesiastes. / The interpretation "eternity," is conceived in the sense of a long indefinite period of time, in accordance with the use of the word throughout this book, and the rest of the Old Testament. God has placed in the inborn constitution of man the capability of conceiving of eternity, the struggle to apprehend the everlasting, the longing after an eternal life!"
- All Men Have Been Created With This:
 - Inner Desire & Pursuit:
 - For Eternal Life!
 - And This Is Also Why Jesus Came!
 - To Offer:

2. ***The Prospect Of This Hope:***

- Of Eternal Life!
 - Just In The Words Themselves:
 - We Can See Why This Hope:
 - Is So Desirable!
 - Titus 1:2 - "In Hope Of Eternal Life!"
- It Is Life!
 - Not Just The Way We Live Our Lives Now:
 - But The Way God Originally Designed Life To Be Like!
 - In The Garden Of Eden - Before The Fall!
 - John 10:9-10 - "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. / The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly!"
 - An Abundant Life Covers All Levels:
 - Of A Person's Existence!
 - It Is A State Of Vitality In The Physical / Mental / Spiritual Experiences Of A Person!
 - It Is A Life Full Of:
 - Happiness:
 - Instead Of The Sorrow & Despair:
 - We Often Experience In This Life!
 - It Is A Life Full Of:
 - Health:
 - Instead Of The Sickness & Diseases:
 - We Know All Too Well!
 - It Is A Life Full Of:
 - Holiness:
 - Instead Of The Sin & Depravity:
 - That Infests Our Hearts!
 - It Is A Life That Experiences Heaven Itself:
 - Instead Of Living In The Shadows Of A Fallen World!
 - Real Life:
 - Is The Hope That God Offers Through Jesus Christ!
 - But This Hope Is Also Desirable Because:
- It Is Eternal!
 - The Kind Of Life We Just Described:
 - Will Never End!
 - And this Is The Kind Of Life Jesus Offers Over & Over Again!

- John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life!"
- John 10:27-28 - "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: / And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand!"
- What A Prospect!
 - The "Eternal Life" That People Have:
 - Long Desired & Pursued After:
 - Does Exist!
 - Only - It Exists In An Even Better Way Than We Could Ever Have Imagined!
 - And It Is A Hope That:
 - God Offers As A Gift:
 - To All Who Turn To & Trust In Jesus Christ As Their Savior!
 - Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord!"
 - But We Also See From Titus 1:

3. ***The Promise Of This Hope:***

- Of Eternal Life!
 - Titus 1:2 - "In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began!"
 - See From This That Eternal Life Is:
- A Promise Made By God!
 - And When God Makes A Promise:
 - He Never Breaks It!
 - Deuteronomy 32:4 - "He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he!"
 - So - The Reliability Of His Promise:
 - Is Based On The Reliability Of:
 - His Person / His Nature!
 - And Look At When God Made This Promise:
 - Of "Eternal Life!"
 - "Before The World Began!"
 - In Other Words - Even Before He Created You - He Thought Of You - And Made A Promise About You - If You Are A Christian!
 - But To Whom Was This Promise Made?
 - Not To Paul, Nor To You Or Me:
 - But To Himself!
 - It Was A Promise Made Within The Trinity!
 - God The Father Promised God The Son:
 - That All Who Believe In Him:
 - Will Receive His Life!
 - Eternal Life!
 - Paul - 2 Timothy 1:1 - "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus!"
 - And Then - This Becomes:
 - A Promise Manifested Through The Gospel!
 - 1 John 2:25 - "And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life!"
 - Imagine That! When You Are Born Again:
 - The Eternal Life That You Receive Is Something That God Promised:
 - Not First To You:
 - But To Himself - Making It That Much More Sure & Secure!
 - And This Is Why Paul Then Describes:

3. ***The Proclamation Of This Hope:***

- Of Eternal Life!
 - Titus 1:3 - "But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour!"
 - This Hope Of Eternal Life:
 - This Promise Of Eternal Life:

- Is Worth Proclaiming!
- Proclaiming It To Others:
 - Remember What The Purpose Of Our Hope Was / Is?
 - To Share It!
 - 1 Peter 3:15 - "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you!"
 - And If Many Are Desiring:
 - This Kind Of Life!
 - And If Many Are Pursuing:
 - This Kind Of Life!
 - Then We Need To Remember:
 - As Paul Did - That The Word & Message Of Eternal Life:
 - Has Been "Committed" & Entrusted To You & To Me!
 - Our Heart & Attitude Ought To Be:
 - The Same As Paul's:
 - In 1 Corinthians 9:16 - "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"
 - It Is Also Still Worth:
- Proclaiming It To Ourselves!
 - John 6:66-69 - "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. / Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? / Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. / And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God!"
 - Need To Continue To Follow The Lord:
 - And His Word - Because He Continues To Reveal To Us:
 - "The Hope Of Eternal Life!"
- And This Leads Us To:

4. *The Purpose Of This Hope:*

- Of Eternal Life!
 - Titus 1:1 - "Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness!"
 - The "Hope Of Eternal Life" That He Received:
 - By Faith In Jesus Christ:
 - Is What Motivated Him & Enabled Him To Be Who God Called Him To Be & To Do What God Called Him To Do!
 - He Was Serving:
 - "In Hope Of Eternal Life!"
 - That Is - His Identity As:
 - "A Servant Of God" Was Based On This Hope! Also:
 - He Was Sent:
 - "In Hope Of Eternal Life!"
 - Again - His Mission As:
 - "An Apostle Of Jesus Christ" Was Also Based On This Hope!
 - His "Hope Of Eternal Life" Helped Him:
 - Live For The Lord:
 - And Put Everything Else In Its Proper Perspective!

Conclusion:

1. This Is The "Hope Of Eternal Life" That Jesus Offers:
 - To You - When You Turn To Him:
 - And Trust In Him As Your Personal Savior:
 - From Sin!
 - And It Is A Great Hope!
 - It Is Based On God's Promise:
 - And It Invigorates Our Service:
 - To God In This Life!
2. Do You Have This Hope?

- 1 John 5:13 - "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God!"

- Do You "Know That Ye Have Eternal Life?"

- It Is Something You Can Know!

- It Is Something That You Can Be Assured Of!

- And It Is Something That You Can Look Forward To & Long For!

- "If By Grace You Have Received Life Through Jesus Christ, You Have A Life Which Will Never Die, A Life Which Will Outlast The Sun And Moon! You Will See Ths World Turned To A Black Coal! You Will See Things Expire, But Your Life And The Life Of God Shall Run On Forever And Ever!" (Charles Spurgeon)

3. Now - Imagine What Your "Eternal Life" Will Be Like!

- Revelation 22:1-5 - "And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. / In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. / And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: / And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. / And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever!"

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