

Hope in God's Love

Love the Love Series (Part 1)

Psalm 33; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; August 1, 2021

How do we prepare for what is to come? What do Christians do and why do we do it?

We love, because He first loved us. - 1 John 4:19

The truth of God's love for his children (Romans 8, etc) should move us to:

- Fix our hope on God's love for us.
- Love the love!

“God is too good to be unkind and He is too wise to be mistaken. And when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart. When you are so weak that you cannot do much more than cry, you coin diamonds with both your eyes. The sweetest prayers God ever hears are the groans and sighs of those who have no hope in anything but his love.” - Spurgeon

1. Worship God for His Love (1-5)

¹ Sing for joy in the LORD, O you righteous ones; Praise is becoming to the upright.

² Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.

³ Sing to Him a new song; Play skillfully with a shout of joy.

⁴ For the word of the LORD is upright, And all His work is *done* in faithfulness.

⁵ He loves righteousness and justice; **The earth is full of the lovingkindness of the LORD.**

Where are you looking for love? Can you see the love of God for you through your tears and in the midst of pain?

2. God's Love is Unstoppable (6-12)

⁶ By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deeps in storehouses.

⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

⁹ For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

¹⁰ The LORD nullifies the counsel of the nations; He frustrates the plans of the peoples.

¹¹ **The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart from generation to generation.**

¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

Do you fear the opposition to God's love?

3. God's Love is the Only Hope (13-17)

¹³ The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men;

¹⁴ From His dwelling place He looks out On all the inhabitants of the earth,

¹⁵ He who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works.

¹⁶ **The king is not saved by a mighty army; A warrior is not delivered by great strength.**

¹⁷ **A horse is a false hope for victory; Nor does it deliver anyone by its great strength.**

Is your hope in man or other created things? Does the opposition of man or the criticism of others cause you to despair?

4. Hope in God's Love (18-22)

¹⁸ **Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope for His lovingkindness,**

¹⁹ To deliver their soul from death And to keep them alive in famine.

²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield.

²¹ For our heart rejoices in Him, Because we trust in His holy name.

²² **Let Your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, According as we have hoped in You. – Psalm 33:1-22**

The question is, What do I do when I'm down? (Psalm 42-43)

Fix Your Hope on the Love of God

How do we fix our hope on God's love?

- Fix your mind on the truth of it (meditate on the Word of Love) – Psalm 119:159
- Fix your prayers on the need of it (ask for grace from the God of Love) – Psalm 119:76
- Fix your fight on the protection of it (bring every thought into subjection to the reality of it) – Psalm 119:88

“Have you realized that most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself? Take those thoughts that come to you the moment you wake up in the morning. You have not originated them but they are talking to you, they bring back the problems of yesterday, etc. Somebody is talking. Who is talking to you? Your self is talking to you. Now this man's treatment [in Psalm 42] was this: instead of allowing this self to talk to him, he starts talking to himself. “Why art thou cast down, O my soul?” he asks. His soul had been depressing him, crushing him. So he stands up and says, “Self, listen for moment, I will speak to you.” ... You must turn on yourself, upbraid yourself, condemn yourself, exhort yourself, and say to yourself: ‘Hope thou in God’ – instead of muttering in this depressed, unhappy way.” – Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Cure*