QUANTOCK MINISTRIES

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A Bible teaching and preaching ministry for the Christian community

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CHRISTIAN HOPE

1 Peter 3 v 15. The Greek word for hope is "elpis", meaning "a favourable and confident expectation". The use of the word in English today suggests something rather uncertain (hope?). Instead, the New Testament use of the word denotes the certain ground of our security (hope!), and this is because God wants us to be secure.

In a number of New Testament references (e.g., 1 Corinthians 13 v 13, Galatians 5 v 5 - 6, 1 Thessalonians 1 v 3 and 5 v 8, Hebrews 6 v 10 - 12, 1 Peter 1 v 21 - 22) hope is linked with faith and love. These three attributes work together within us to bring us to maturity – we need faith to establish our relationship with God, love to establish our relationship with others, and hope to establish a settled spirit within ourselves – "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4 v 12).

A. Features of Christian hope:

- 1. Hope comes when we experience the new birth -1 Peter 1 v 3.
- 2. Hope looks for the revelation of the Lord's grace 1 Peter 1 v 13.
- 3. Hope results in spiritual beauty (fruit of the Spirit) in our life -1 Peter 3 v 4-5.
- 4. Hope is rooted in the Lord Jesus Christ 1 Timothy 1 v 1.
- 5. Hope is encouraged through the scriptures Romans 15 v 4.

B. Our hope (inner security) is the foundation for:

- 1. A worldwide messianic future Matthew 12 v 21.
- 2. Our assurance of resurrection life Acts 23 v 6.
- 3. Our experience of God's glory Romans 5 v 2.
- 4. Our daily joy Romans 12 v 12.
- 5. Our fullness in trusting Romans 15 v 13.
- 6. Our continual deliverance 2 Corinthians 1 v 10.
- 7. Our complete righteousness Galatians 5 v 5 and 1 John 3 v 3.
- 8. Our witness to God's glory Ephesians 1 v 12.
- 9. Our glorious inheritance Ephesians 1 v 18.
- 10. Our true unity Ephesians 4 v 4.
- 11. Our own future glory Colossians 1 v 27.
- 12. Our desire to be obedient to Jesus 1 Timothy 1 v 1.
- 13. Our relief from need 1 Timothy 5 v 5.
- 14. Our sight of the Lord's Return Titus 2 v 13.
- 15. Our assurance of God's rewards Hebrews 6 v 11.
- 16. Our knowledge of the unseen Hebrews 11 v 1.