



Sermon Notes

Matt12:21 “In His name people will put their hope.”
“The world is a dark place, and yet the coming of Jesus Christ shows us no one and nothing is hopeless.”- Timothy Keller
Hope is not wishful thinking but joyful confident expectation.

Ephesians 1:11-14

What Is Our Winning Hand (confident joyful expectation)?
Pro13:12

- **His Presence is Walking with me**
Hebrews 13:5-6 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”⁶ So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?”
- **His Power is Working in me**
Phil.1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
Phil.2:12-13 ...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
- **His Purpose is Working for me**
Rom.8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.
Gen.50:20 As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.
- **His Place Is Waiting for me**
John 14:1-3 Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.
Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Growing Notes

- 1) Human beings are unavoidably hope based creatures. Why do you think that how you live in the present is inevitably shaped by what you believe about your future? When you have a winning hand, you're not uptight or nervous. You just enjoy the game. How is this like the Christian life?
- 2) Read Ephesians 1:11-14. Paul says in verse 12 that we who were the 1st to do what? For the praise of who's glory? What happens when we believe in Christ (v13)? Hope is not wishful thinking but joyful confident expectation. What's the difference? How is this text hope saturated? What happens to a person who lives with unrealistic expectations (Pro13:12)?
- 3) What does it mean that God's presence is walking with me (Hebrews12:5-6)? What difference would it make in your everyday life if you remembered who it is who walks through your day with you never to leave you or forsake you? What does it mean that His power is working in me (Phil1:6, 2:12-13)? What can you expect as it relates to overcoming hurts, habits and Hang-ups?
- 4) What does it mean that His purpose is working for me (Rom8:28; Gen50:20)? How does this relate to past unexplainable & painful events in your life? What does it mean that His place is waiting for me (John14:1-3)? What should be our joyful confident expectation as believers in Christ when it comes to facing death? How might the truths in this study make a difference in our lives in 2014? Pray Romans15:13 for you, your family & the db family as we start a brand new year.