

Divine Worship

Romans 5.1-5

“The Hope of Glory: The View from Here (2)”

Preparation: Romans 5.1, 2

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Silent Meditation

Call to Worship

Leader:

*It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;
To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning,
And Your faithfulness every night...*

Psalm 92.1, 2, 4

Leader:

For You, LORD, have made me glad through Your work;
I will triumph in the works of Your hands.

Hymn of Praise

“Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

Charles Wesley

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior, reigns, the God of truth and love.
When He had purged our stains He took His seat above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and Heav'n.
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Jesus the Judge shall come,
And take His servants up to their eternal home;
We soon shall hear th' archangel's voice; the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Invocation and Call to Confession

Leader:

O Lord Jesus Christ, our King and our Savior, we rejoice in the hope of glory that is ours because of Your grace, Your suffering, Your resurrection, and the gift of Your Spirit. We praise You as we come before You, that we might take our stand with You in glory, rejoicing in hope, and longing to be transformed more completely into Your likeness. As we come, we pause for you to search us, and lead us in these silent confessions of sin. **Hear our silent confessions, O Lord.**

Silent Confession

All

Word of Assurance

Psalm 92.12-15

Leader:

The Lord, Who has heard our confessions of sin, promises:

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
Shall flourish in the courts of our God.
They shall still bear fruit in old age;
They shall be fresh and flourishing,
To declare that the LORD is upright;
He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

All:

Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Assurance

Psalm 92.11-15

(Sweet Hour: [*Sweet Hour of Prayer*](#))

My eye my vanquished foe shall see; my ears hear those who threaten me.
Yet in God's house, where he belongs, the righteous like a tree grows strong.
Then let us green and fruitful be and flourish like a mighty tree,
To tell God's righteousness abroad: He is our Rock, our sovereign God!

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Psalm 92.1-8

Leader:

*It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;*

All:

To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning,
And Your faithfulness every night,
With harmonious sound...
For You, LORD, have made me glad through Your work;
I will triumph in the works of Your hands.
O LORD, how great are Your works!
Your thoughts are very deep.
A senseless man does not know,
Nor does a fool understand this.
When the wicked spring up like grass,
And when all the workers of iniquity flourish,
It is that they may be destroyed forever.
But You, LORD, are on high forevermore.

All may offer prayers of praise and thanks to the Lord. At the end of these prayers, the Leader shall **lead the people in praying the Lord's Prayer.**

Offerings to the Lord

Leader:

Let us now bring our offerings to honor the Lord and edify one another by His Word: a passage of Scripture which has been particularly helpful; a brief word of praise for some grace of God bestowed; an observation from creation which revealed the glory of the Lord; a word of appreciation for some aspect of the beauty, goodness, or truth of the Lord.

When as many as like have shared, the **Leader shall pray**:

We give You thanks and praise, O Lord, and offer ourselves to you in our confession of faith together **(all together, saying the Apostles' Creed)**:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Doxology

All

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!
Praise Him, all creatures, here below!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Amen!

Prayers of the People

Leader:

Let us bring our prayers and supplications to the Lord.

All may offer prayers of intercession or supplication, seeking mercy and grace to help in our time of need. **At the end, let the Leader and people pray Psalm 92.12-15, as indicated:**

Leader:

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
Those who are planted in the house of the Lord
Shall flourish in the courts of our God.

All:

They shall still bear fruit in old age;
They shall be fresh and flourishing,
To declare that the Lord is upright;
He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

The Ministry of the Word

Romans 5.1-5

The Leader will read the passage for today, or ask another to read it.

We began our study of “The View from Here” by looking at Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 1.15-23, in which he prayed that the eyes of our heart may be open, so that we may see the hope of the calling which is ours because of our Lord Jesus Christ. In 1 Thessalonians 2.12, Paul writes that God “calls you into His own Kingdom and glory.” God’s calling, and that for which we hope, is thus to be found in the Kingdom and glory of God. The better we understand the glory of God and His Kingdom, the more we will know of the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ.

In Romans 5.1-5, Paul says that we *stand in the grace* of our Lord Jesus, and this enables us to *hope in His glory*. Let’s think about this a bit more.

1. What does it mean to *stand* in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Because through Jesus Christ we have access to grace, and can stand in the grace of God, we “rejoice in the hope of the glory of God” (v. 2). The glory of God is the *Presence* of God made manifest to us, so that we know Him with us, in us, and working through us. Here are some situations in which the glory of God was manifested to His people. In each case, talk about the form His glory took, and how the people responded:

2. The mount of transfiguration (Matt. 17.1-5):
3. To John, on the Isle of Patmos (Rev. 1.10-17):
4. To Stephen (Acts 7.54-60):

When the glory of God is manifested, a kind of *heaviness* occurs. The root meaning of “glory” is “to be heavy.” When confronted with the glory of God, people are astonished, surprised, emboldened, or even afraid. And yet, Paul says that we “rejoice in the hope of the glory of God” (Rom. 5.2).

5. Why is that so? How does the glory of God provoke us to rejoice?
6. According to Romans 5.3-5, how strong is that rejoicing? What can it do for us?

We are daily called by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to know the glory of God, so that we are *transformed* by that glory into the likeness of Jesus (2 Cor. 3.12-18), and so that we *refract* that glory through all the everyday situations and activities of our lives (1 Cor. 10.31). This is the hope of our calling: that we might *see* God in His glory, *participate* in Him in that glory, and *have that glory be seen in us* by the people around us.

But for this to be consistently the case, that is, for us to “see” the hope of our calling to God’s glory, we must consistently gaze upon the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, where He is exalted with the Father, and we have been seated with Him in heavenly places. Let’s look at 2 Corinthians 4.6, 16-18.

7. How can we encourage one another to see Jesus exalted, so that we might, by His grace, know the hope of ever increasing glory?

Hymn of Commitment

Psalm 27

(Joanna: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*)

Lord, You are our Light and our Savior most dear! You guard us with might; therefore, whom shall we fear?
Though evil surround us, our enemies fall; no harm shall confound us when on You we call.

One thing we request but to dwell with You, Lord, Your beauty to test and to think on Your Word.
In trouble You hide us secure in Your grace; no foe may o'erride us: We sing of Your praise!

Hear, Lord, when we cry and be gracious, we pray! Lord, do not deny us Your favor this day!
Our help, our salvation, though others may fall, preserve our good station when on You we call.

Lord, teach us; Lord, lead us because of our foes! Hear, Lord, when we plead for release from their woes.
Had we not believed all Your goodness to see, our heart sorely grieved and in turmoil would be.

Wait, wait on the Lord; persevere in His grace. Hold fast to His Word; seek His radiant face.
Be strong, set your heart to abide in His Word; His grace He imparts; therefore, wait on the Lord.

Benediction

Psalm 27.14, 8

Leader:

Wait on the LORD;
Be of good courage,
And He shall strengthen your heart;
Wait, I say, on the LORD!

All:

Your face, O LORD, I will seek!

“Divine Worship” is a free resource of The Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org, prepared weekly by T. M. and Susie Moore. Readers are free to copy and distribute “Divine Worship” for their use in seeking the Lord. Visit our website, to discover more free resources to help you in your walk with and work for the Lord. All psalms for singing are from [The Ailbe Psalter](#). Scripture taken from the New King James Version. © Copyright 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.