

For We Are Saved By Hope
Romans Chapter 8 Verses 01-25

We shall pass over many revelations in this chapter to get to the one point we have under consideration: salvation and hope. It takes the whole of the chapter to set the context in proper perspective.

1 ¶ There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10 ¶ And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus," Paul points out; the born-again sinner does not continue to live, a life that fulfills the lust of the flesh, the natural inherit nature; but rather, the born-again sinner is to live a life of godliness, which is a life of killing (do mortify) the desires of the sin nature. You accomplish this by being led by the Spirit of God.

"Therefore, brethren, we are debtors," Understand, when you were born-again; you were purchased, from the bondage of sin and the lordship of satan, unto life in Christ, to whom we are now debtors. *"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear;"* What do you mean? Those who were under the law service were bound to make sacrifices and offerings for their sins, or else they would be killed, or banished, from being a part of Israel. This was the bondage of fear, of the commandment of God, that brought them to obedience to the law service.

"but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Born-again sinners are living under the guarantee of an inheritance. You can disown a child that was born to you naturally, but you cannot disown an adopted child. A child has the expectation of inheriting from their parents when they die. You are not children under the law service, but rather; you become children in the family of God when you are born-again.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 ¶ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. 18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not

worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

"For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God."

The creature under consideration is the newborn man, the resurrected soul. This newborn creature, man or woman, awaits the manifestation of the body, which will be resurrected from the dead, or be changed in a moment when the end of time comes, and Christ returns to gather all the children of God to take them to their eternal abode, as seen in: **1Co 15:42-44; 42 "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: 43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body."** This is the key to what herein follows.

22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. 24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

The whole creation is the whole family, the kingdom of God. All those whose sins were remitted when Christ died upon the cross. Their bodies shall be raised incorruptible, and immortal, which is the redemption of the body, which is the hope with which the born-again sinner lives.

"For we are saved by hope:" The word **"For"** at the beginning of the sentence, and the colon at the end of the sentence, tie this clause back to the previous sentence. Now you can easily understand; Paul is not speaking of our salvation in time, but our eternal salvation and our body resurrection.

Does one, who has not been born-again, have any desire, or hope, to be saved? No, they are still dead. There must be the resurrection of the dead soul before there can be any belief or hope. Therefore, it is easy to discern that the hope, here spoke of, is the expectation of the resurrection of the body, to eternal life in the eternal kingdom. How do we know this? Because, you already know of your eternal-life salvation here, wherefore, you do not hope for that salvation to happen again, it is already manifested. We have knowledge of our eternal salvation, here in time. You know if you have been born-again, as we are taught by scripture, seen in several places, here are a few:

- **1Jo 3:14 "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."** If we love those, we believe to be born-again, we have knowledge of the evidence: we have been saved eternally.
- **Joh 10:4 "And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice."** Clearly seen is the fact: God's people, having been born-again, know his voice, which is knowledge of evidence of eternal salvation.
- **Joh 10:14 "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."** Not only does Christ know who his sheep are, his sheep also know him, which is knowledge of evidence of eternal life.

Remember, you are only born-again once, not multiple times. How do you know this? Because when you are born-again you are given eternal life. If you have eternal life, how can you be born-again a second time? The answer is you can't.

However, this knowledge, of eternal life, is a benefit in time salvation. How, you ask, if it is speaking of the resurrection of the body and eternal salvation? Since you have knowledge of your new birth, and the eternal life you received: you can now have peace, in your heart and mind, that your eternal salvation is sure and fixed, by the finished work of Christ Jesus. Exercising faith, and belief, in this truth when you are tempted by lust and satan, who would have you believe that you have not been saved eternally, you can resist, the temptation of doubt, with full confidence. How? Because of the knowledge of your salvation and eternal life in Christ.

Therefore, in the Christian life here, "**For we are saved by hope:**" is a reminder; if we live the Christian life to the full, we shall save ourselves from many temptations, trials, troubles, and tribulations, in this life. We can save ourselves from the disillusion of fear and doubt. We will save ourselves, from falling into the temptations of sin, by living in accordance with the truths of Christ.

"But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." What you are waiting for is that which is not yet manifested; the eternal redemption of your body in the resurrection. This hope of the eternal redemption of the body, which means you will be removed from all the death and damnation that this world has to offer. This glorious hope, in your heart and mind, fills you with the strength to endure in faith, until the fruition of the new body, which will be immortal and incorruptible. This hope is the greatest encourager for the Christian.

"For we are saved by hope:" I was raised and taught the delusion, and misconception, of the improper interpretation of this clause. We were taught; you could not know anything for sure, meaning that you could not know that you were saved, and you lived by hope only. This was a gross misunderstanding of what God's word teaches, and happened by taking the scripture out of context, of the whole of scripture, and in this case, the context of the chapter.

As we can clearly see, in the context of the scripture: the salvation, and hope, here spoken of, are that of the body in the resurrection at the end of time, which hope; we can only have if we know we are saved eternally. Praise and glory to God for the surety of our salvation and eternal life, in and through Christ Jesus. Hallelujah! Amen!

These truths bring understanding, and joy, to the words of the hymn 171 in the Lloyd Hymnal

171 C. M. Salvation.

- 1 SALVATION! O the joyful sound! 'Tis pleasure to our ears; A sovereign balm for every wound, A cordial for our fears.
- 2 Buried in sorrow and in sin, At hell's dark door we lay; But we arise by grace divine, To see a heavenly day.
- 3 Salvation! let the echo fly The spacious earth around, While all the armies of the sky Conspire to raise the sound.