

Romans 15:13, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - "Hope" in Secular & Biblical Vernacular. Romans 15:13

In secular use, the word "hope" is most often used to refer to a wish or desire. People hope their favorite sports team will win. They hope gas prices will go down. They hope their car can last another year. But biblical hope is not a wish or a dream, but the eager expectation of the fulfillment of God's promises, i.e. being with the Lord in glory one day! And since God's promises never fail, our hope is never in vain. Read Romans 8:23-25

☐ Tuesday - The God of Hope. Romans 15:13

The apostle writes, "Now may the *God of hope* fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in *hope* by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 15:13). This is Christianity boiled down to its purest form. By the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, the true child of God's whole hope for eternal life is in the God of hope, with no contingency plan, no backup plan, no plan B; clinging only to the immutable promises of the God who cannot lie (Titus 1:2, Heb. 6:18). For "Whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed" (Rom. 10:11). Read Psalm 130:5, Lamentations 3:24

☐ Wednesday - His Promises Never Fail. Romans 15:13

Almost every Christian knows John 3:16: "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life." O what a promise! Those that hope in Christ *will not* perish; they *will* have everlasting life. You can take that to the bank! It *will* happen! This is the "*hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago*" (Titus 1:2). "*This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast*" (Heb. 6:19). Read Lamentations 3:22-23

☐ Thursday - A Message of Hope for the Hopeless. Romans 15:13

Peter writes, "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your heart, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the *hope* that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence" (1 Pet. 3:15). There is a pandemic of hopelessness, depression and despair in our world. But you, Christian, have a real message of hope for the hopeless; that is, the Gospel. Let's get out there and share the good news! Read Daniel 12:3, Matthew 5:14-16

☐ Friday - We Grieve Not as Those who have No Hope. Romans 15:13

Scripture declares, "The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous and His ears are open to their cry" (Psa. 34:15). It's OK to cry, Christian; this fallen world is really hard to live in sometimes. But "we do not grieve as those who have no hope" (1 Thess. 4:13), for with every tear that we shed there is a sparkle of hope, knowing that one day the Lord will return and wipe away every tear from our eyes (Rev. 21:4), and turn our sorrow into joy (Jer. 31:13). Soon and very soon we're going to see the King! Read Psalm Isa. 35:10