

CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROOKFIELD, IL

Grace and Hope

Sermon Series

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3/8/2015

so that, having been justified
by his grace, we might
become heirs having the hope
of eternal life.

Titus 3:7

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March 8, 2015

Titus 3:7 (NIV)

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Sermon Series Thesis:

The Inheritance of God should drive the Christian to live building a legacy that imitates our creator.

Sermon Thesis:

By His Grace we have Hope of a Godly Inheritance.

Objectives:

- I. What God's Grace has done
- II. What Hope will do
- III. Becoming Heirs

Introduction:

Eternal life when mentioned is thought of generally as a reward. Most I believe think that eternal life will correct life's wrongs and will cause earthly sorrows to become great treasures in Heaven. Men would be wise to recognize that if Heaven were the default destiny of every soul then we would not need **G**od's **R**ighteousness **A**t **C**hrist **E**xpense. The cross of Calvary and Love from our creator has given birth to Hope. In this Hope men can become Heirs with Jesus who offered Himself on the cross of Calvary that we might indeed hear and respond to the salvation and eternal life with God as our destiny.

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Sermon Outline:

I. What God's Grace has done

- A. God's Righteousness At Christ Expense
- B. This Righteousness has appeared to all men

Titus 2:11 (NIV)

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.

- C. The Righteousness of Christ has offered to save us

Acts 15:11 (NIV)

¹¹ No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."

- D. The righteousness, the salvation of Jesus can be obtained freely

Romans 3:24 (NIV)

²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

- E. Once we have obtained the Grace of God, we are to continue in it

Acts 13:43 (NIV)

⁴³ When the congregation was dismissed, many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who talked with them and urged them to continue in the grace of God.

- F. By continuing in this Grace we establish Hope

The Grace of God makes it possible for this great salvation we have Hope in.

II. What Hope will do

- A. Hope is an expectation or belief in the fulfillment of something desired¹

¹ Elwell, W. A., & Beitzel, B. J. (1988). In *Baker encyclopedia of the Bible* (p. 996). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.

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B. This Hope we have is not according to what we see with our eyes

Romans 8:24–25 (NIV)

²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

C. Our Hope is solid because we trust in God, He would never lie to us

Titus 1:2 (NIV)

² in the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time,

D. Our desire for salvation and eternal life gives us endurance

1 Thessalonians 1:3 (NIV)

³ We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hope encourages us; Hope gives us endurance that we who are Heirs of the Promise walk toward our Godly Inheritance.

III. Becoming Heirs

A. In becoming heirs with Christ we share in His sufferings that we might share in the Inheritance

Romans 8:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

B. As heirs we have the promise of God toward this Godly Inheritance

Hebrews 6:16–20 (NIV)

¹⁶ People swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. ¹⁷ Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. ¹⁸ God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have

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fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. ¹⁹ We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, ²⁰ where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

C. By Faith we are the Heirs to this promise of a Godly Inheritance

Romans 4:16–17 (NIV)

¹⁶ Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷ As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

Becoming Heirs we make sure this Inheritance by Grace and Hope.

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Conclusion:

What has the Grace of God done for you? Has it called you to respond in obedience to the Lord's commands? Will the Grace of God only appear to you without taking hold of it?

Grace has developed Hope in our lives. Hope encourages and causes us to endure. Hope causes us to share in all things in Christ. We share the suffering and the glory.

By faith we have become Heirs in the Godly Inheritance which God has determined from the beginning. Let your faith begin today and let it be strengthened until we take hold of it.

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Invitation:

Romans 10:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Luke 13:3 (NIV)

³ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

Romans 10:9–10 (NIV)

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Acts 2:38 (NIV)

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation 2:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.