

## **“The Essence of Hope”**

**(Romans 5:1-5)**

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### **I. The enemy of hope (Introduction)**

“The utter absence of any sense of hope, accompanied by a feeling of powerlessness. Despair leads to resignation and possibly to suicide. If you attended college in the sixties and seventies, you may recall the popularity of French existentialism. Some advocates of this philosophy suggested that suicide is the only logical response to the despair evoked by a meaningless world.” Allender and Longman

Message: Hope is not a thing, not a location, not a situation, not an experience. Hope is a person and His name is Jesus.

- Living grounded in hope
- Proclaiming the message of hope

### **II. Living grounded in hope**

“So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain...” Hebrews 6:17-19

#### **A. Our justification**

#### **B. The glory of God**

#### **C. To our sufferings**

#### **D. Will never put us to shame**

#### **E. To the abiding Holy Spirit**

“It is the steadfast love of God. The reason our hope will never let us down is that God will never let us down. His love will never give us up.” John Stott

### **II. Proclaiming the message of hope (Application)**

“For God alone my soul waits in silence;  
from Him comes my salvation.  
He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.”

Psalm 62:1-2

“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.” Romans 15:13