



Raising Your Hopes

Dr Cecil Stewart

Raising Your Hopes

Romans 5:1-5 – ‘Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

And patience, experience: and experience, hope:

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.’

When we have hope in our heart we can experience peace right in the midst of storms.

Losers focus on what they are going through. Winners focus on what they are going to.

All of us have a very good reason to raise our hopes because we have been given amazing grace, blessing, the gift of eternal life and the power to live a life of purpose that can transform our families, communities and nations.

Romans 5:17 – ‘For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.’

We have a very good reason to raise our hopes because Jesus, the Son of God, who knew no sin became sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him – see **2 Corinthians 5:21**.

All that Jesus did on the cross was for us – see **Isaiah 53:5** which says ‘He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and by His stripes we are healed’.

Isaiah 53:4 shows how He bore our grief and carried our sorrows. He was oppressed and afflicted. He took our rejection, injustice, depression, anxiety and guilt so we could live a life of victory and overcome all the fiery darts of the devil – see **Ephesians 6:16**.

Remember the best way to draw attention to the cross is to live in the good of its provision.

Oh what a victory Jesus accomplished for us! See **Colossians 2:15** – ‘And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it’.

The truth is that we have already been justified by faith the moment we repented and received the gift of salvation according to **Ephesians 2:8** and **Romans 5:1-5**.

We have already been given His peace and His love has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 5:8 – ‘God demonstrated His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us’.

Proverbs 4:23 – ‘Keep your heart with all diligence’.

What we allow into our hearts and minds determines whether we have worry and strife or peace and faith.

Colossians 3:14-17 – ... ‘And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful’.

His word reveals His will and when we walk in it we have hope, peace, vision and joy.

Colossians 1:10 reminds us that we are to be fruitful in every good work.

Colossians 2:6 – shows how we can walk by faith just as we received His salvation.

Hope can be developed or destroyed depending on where our focus is.

Your future is seen in your daily routine.

Romans 5:5 – hope doesn't disappoint.

Hebrews 11:1-3 – 'Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.'

We see the vision of what hope and faith produces.

Acts 20:32 shows the word is able to build you up and give you an inheritance.

Here is the key to being a hope builder and one who produces life.

Jude 1:20 says '... building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost'.

Luke 18:1 says '... men ought always to pray, and not to faint'.

I know what disappointment
and discouragement is but I
know it can be overcome.

Matthew 7:24 shows us how to overcome every storm. There is a need of hope in the family, in schools, in universities, in the workplace, in the government, in the marketplace, in all nations and we can be those hope builders.

The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.

Colossians 2:7 tells us to be rooted and built up in Him.

Hope comes through identity

Colossians 1:27 – '... Christ in you, the hope of glory.'

When we know we are in His family it gives us identity and hope to overcome very negative situations.

Romans 15:13 tells us He is the God of hope.

Hope comes through fellowship with the Lord and each other.

Surround yourself with hope builders.

Focus on who is in you, not
who is against you.

Romans 14:19 – ‘... follow after the things that make for peace.’

1 Corinthians 15:19 – ‘If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.’

Hope grows in right environment

Matthew 5:6 – ‘Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.’

Galatians 6:6-10 shows whatever we sow we reap, so remember we can live in an environment of faith and hope even in the midst of our world which is opposed to Christian values.

We have the power to arrest the negative thoughts and take them captive according to **2 Corinthians 10:5**.

Hope builders transform generations

Psalm 78:7 shows how we can encourage our children to set their hope in God.

Ephesians 1:18 exhorts us to know what is the hope of our calling.

Hebrews 6:19 shows we have hope as an anchor.

It is so important that we have a vision and passion for this and future generations and realise that we have the power to speak favour over them and prophesy that their hearts will turn to the Lord. This opens a door for God to work in them.

Favour is manifested when preparation
and opportunity meet.

Proverbs 23:7 reminds us as a man thinks so is he, so remember to think God’s way and not the way of the world, and then we will see transformation happen in ours and future generations.

If you would like to receive information about CCN or support the ministry please contact us.

You can also visit our website **www.ccnorg.com** to find teachings of Dr Cecil Stewart OBE, request other free hope builders and find up-to-date information on the ministry and special events.

Other hope builders include: Sights, Sounds & Seasons, Healing Environment, The Transforming Power of Thanksgiving, Give it Over and Get on, It's not over, Settling Uncertainties, Followers who Finish, Overcoming Anxiety, Overcoming Offence, Change & Choice and Accelerate.

Watch Deciding Your Destiny on Revelation TV every Sunday at 10pm and Thursday at 2pm.

Facebook: CCN - Christian Communications Network

Facebook: Cecil Stewart

YouTube: Christian Communications Network

Christian Communications Network

547 Antrim Road, Belfast

County Antrim, Northern Ireland

BT15 3BU

Tel: +44 (0) 28 9077 9552

Email: ccn@ccnorg.com





Christian Communications Network
547 Antrim Road, Belfast
County Antrim, Northern Ireland
BT15 3BU

Tel: +44 (0) 28 9077 9552

Email: ccn@ccnorg.com