

Lord's Supper Exhortation for April 11, 2021  
by Rolland Morehead

As we prepare our minds as Christians to observe the Lord's Supper, I would like to emphasize the word "hope". A couple of dictionary definitions of **hope** are: 1) An attitude or mindset that what is wanted will happen or 2) a desire accompanied by expectation. In our secular lives, sometime the things we hope for do not become a reality. For example, we might say "I *hope* that it doesn't rain today." Guess what? It rains. In our spiritual lives as Christians, we can rest assured that the priceless *hope* of eternal life, heaven itself, will someday become a reality! I going to share several passages of Scripture that powerfully emphasize that fact.

Titus 1:1-12 Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, **2** in the *hope* of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago

Hebrews 6:18-19 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to hold firmly to the *hope* set before us. **19** This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and reliable and one which enters within the veil (our great hope leads us to heaven itself)

1 Peter 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living *hope* through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you

Hebrews 10:23 Let's hold firmly to the confession of our *hope* without wavering, for He who promised is faithful

All of the precious promises we enjoy as Christians are the result of what Christ did on the cross for us. In Romans 12:12, the apostle Paul declares, "rejoicing in *hope*"

Because of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, as Christians, we rejoice in our eternal *hope*.

As we enter this time of communion and focus on the cross and remember Christ's suffering and death in order that we might be forgiven and lay claim to the great *hope* that is ours as Christians, I would like to share this thought. In our mind's eye, may we see the scene of the cross laid out before us, with these twelve words vividly etched upon it...

Love, grace, mercy, long-suffering, patience, kindness, forgiveness, salvation, eternal life, heaven, hope.

2 Corinthians 9:14 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift.

Let's pray:

Father in heaven, we thank You for praise You for the the gift of your Son Jesus Christ. We ask forgiveness for our sins. May You cleanse and renew us. Thank You for Your grace and mercy that You extend to us daily. Would You bless these emblems, the bread and juice, which remind us of Christ's body and blood that was given on Calvary's cross for us. We thank You and praise You. For we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.