Paul's Prayer for the Christians at Rome

Rom 15:13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Elder Jeff Winfrey, Pastor Dawson Springs Primitive Baptist Church 101 East Walnut Street Dawson Springs, KY 42408 www.dspbc.com

I. Paul continually prayed for the Christians in the churches

- Eph 1:16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;
- Eph 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:
- Eph 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,
- Eph 1:19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,
- Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead,...
- Eph 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- Eph 3:15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
- Eph 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
- Eph 3:17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
- Eph 3:18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
- Eph 3:19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.
- Eph 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
- Eph 3:21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.
- Col 1:9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;
- Col 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- Col 1:11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;
- Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
- Heb 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

II. Paul prayed to the God of hope

- Psa 38:15 For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.
- Psa 42:11 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God...
- Psa 146:5 Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God:
- 2Th 2:16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,

III. Fill you with all joy in believing

A. We need the kind of joy that gives strength

- Neh 8:10 ...the joy of the LORD is your strength.
- Pro 15:21 Folly is joy to him that is destitute of wisdom...

B. There was joy at the birth of Jesus

- Luk 2:10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- Luk 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

C. There was joy in the presence of Jesus

Luk 19:37 ...the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen;

D. There was joy at the resurrection of Jesus

Mat 28:8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy...

E. There was joy at the ascension of Jesus

- Luk 24:51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.
- Luk 24:52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:
- Luk 24:53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

F. There is a joy that is still available in the fellowship of Jesus

- 1Jn 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life...
- 1Jn 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.
- 1Jn 1:4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.
- Mat 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

G. There can even be joy in the midst of troubles

- 1Pe 1:6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:
- 1Pe 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:
- 1Pe 1:8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see *him* not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:
- Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

H. Jesus endured by looking to the joy that was set before him

- Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- Heb 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

IV. Fill you with all peace in believing

A. From ancient times prophets spoke of the coming Man of Peace

- Gen 49:10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh (*By definition-tranquility*) come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*.
- Isa 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
- Isa 53:5 ...the chastisement of our peace was upon him...

B. The Man of Peace arrived to the praise of the angels and the glory of God

- Luk 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
- Luk 2:12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
- Luk 2:13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
- Luk 2:14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

C. The Man of Peace left us with peace

- Joh 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.
- Luk 24:36, Joh 20:19, Joh 20:21, Joh 20:26 ...Peace be unto you.

D. The Man of Peace made the Holy God to be at peace with sinful men

- Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.
- 2Co 5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ...

E. The gospel of peace lets sinful men sense a peace of mind toward the Holy God

- 2Co 5:18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 2Co 5:19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.
- 2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.
- 2Co 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
- Luk 1:79 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
- Rom 10:15 ...How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

F. A believer in Jesus can sense unexplainable peace in times of trouble

- Php 4:5 ... The Lord *is* at hand.
- Php 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
- Php 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

V. That you may abound in hope

A. We are saved by hope

- Rom 8:24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?
- Rom 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

B. Bible hope is generally tied to resurrection

- Act 24:15 And have hope toward God...that there shall be a resurrection of the dead...
- Act 23:6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.
- Act 26:6 And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers:
- Act 26:7 Unto which *promise* our twelve tribes, instantly serving *God* day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews.
- Act 26:8 Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?
- 1Co 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.
- 1Co 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

C. The certainty of our hope of eternal life

- Tit 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;
 - Heb 6:17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath:
 - Heb 6:18 That by two immutable things, in which *it was* impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:
 - Heb 6:19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast...
- Tit 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;
- Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.
 - Rom 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?
 - Rom 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?
- Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;
- Tit 3:6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;
- Tit 3:7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
 - Php 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

D. Hope that helps us fight the battles

1. Hope helps us fight the battle against sin

1Jn 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God...

- 1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
- 1Jn 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

2. Hope helps us fight the battle of death, as we face the death of a loved one

- 1Th 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
- 1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.
- 1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
- 1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
- 1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
- 1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

3. Hope helps us fight the battle of death, as we face our own impending death

- 2Ti 4:6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.
- 2Ti 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:
- 2Ti 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

VI. Abounding through the power of the Holy Ghost

- Php 4:12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.
- Php 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- 1Jn 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.
- Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
- Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
- Joh 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
- Joh 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.
- Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- Act 2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.