

Romans 15:13

Abounding in Hope –
The Privilege of All
Believers!

¹³ 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.

1. The God of hope
2. Fill you with all joy and peace
3. In believing (by faith)
4. By the power of the Holy Spirit
5. So that we can abound in hope

The Truth for Today

The God of hope wants His people to experience joy and peace in believing and to abound in hope.

Questions to Think About

- Does this verse even come close to describing me?
- Can I honestly say that my life is *filled* with *all* joy and peace in believing?
- Do I *abound* in hope?

Satan is a “Hope” Thief

- John 10:10
- Far too many people are coping with depression which includes a loss of hope.
- If you are struggling with negative thoughts and feelings, think about what this verse is offering to each Christian!
- Do you need an infusion of hope?

1. The God of Hope

Hope – steadfast confidence that what God promises He will fulfill.

The source of our hope is “the God of hope.”

The focus of hope – the promises of God.

Colossians 1:5 Your faith and love have arisen from the hope laid up for you in heaven, which you have heard about in the message of truth, the gospel.

Hope – steadfast confidence that what God promises He will fulfill.

If we lack hope, the first place we should go for it is to the God of hope!

Second, we should review in Scripture what God has promised to them that love and obey Him.

Then, if you are walking in all the light God has given you, ask God to help you to truly believe what He has promised His children.

- **The “God of hope” keeps His promises (see 15:8).**

- **For example, He promised:**

^{15:8} For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised [the Jews] to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,

Galatians 3:8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed."

Galatians 3:14 Through Christ Jesus,
God has blessed the Gentiles with the
same blessing he promised to
Abraham, so that we who are
believers might receive the promised
Holy Spirit through faith.

- **The “God of hope” is a merciful God, not willing that any perish (15:9-12).**

- **His promises includes the gracious offer of salvation to the Gentles (9-12)**

⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

¹⁰ And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹ And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." ¹² And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

We have seen:

- The “God of hope” keeps His promises (15:8).
- The “God of hope” is a merciful God, not willing that any perish (15:9-12).
- Now observe:
- The “God of hope” wants to fill us with all joy and peace (15:13).

2. Fill you with all joy and peace

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing

- **Joy** – satisfaction in God
- **Peace** – a clear conscience that we are right with God and are pleasing Him.

- Can I honestly say that my life is *filled* with *all* joy and peace in believing?
- Do I *abound* in hope?”
- Do I wish to grow in these qualities?
- In order to grow in joy and peace:
 1. Make sure there is no known sin that is unconfessed and unforsaken in your life.

2. Be sure there is no bitterness or unforgiveness toward anyone.

3. Check to see if you are focusing on your problems. If you are, ask God to help you to obey Philippians 4:6-9:

Philippians 4:6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

God's promise:

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

3. In Believing (the role of Faith)

¹³ 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.

- **“in believing”** – speaks of our faith and obedience to what God says in Scripture.

There are **three elements** necessary to have **biblical faith**. (Heb. 11:6, 1)

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must **believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.**

3 elements of faith

Hebrews 11:6 “. . . must believe that he exists and that **he rewards those who seek him.**”

Faith not only believes there is a God:

1. Faith **believes** what God **SAYS**.
2. Faith **obeys** what God **REQUIRES**.

3 elements of faith

Third element of faith:

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

3. Faith trusts in and rests on what God PROMISES because of **confidence assurance** in the God who promises.

3 elements of faith

1. Faith **believes** what God SAYS.
2. Faith **obeys** what God REQUIRES.
3. Faith **trusts in** and **rests on** what God PROMISES.

•The “God of hope” requires us to believe what He says.

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4. By the Power of the Holy Spirit

- **The ability to have joy and peace comes through the power of the Holy Spirit working in us.**

Who is the Holy Spirit?

- He's not a ghost or an impersonal power.
- He is a Person who can be:
 - lied to - Acts. 5:3
 - followed - Gal. 5:18
 - grieved - Eph. 4:30
 - heard - Rev. 2:7
 - resisted - Acts 7:51
 - quenched - 1 Th. 5:19
 - insulted - Heb. 10:29
 - put to the test - Acts 5:9
- He is God (Acts 5:4; Matt. 28:19)
- He co-operates in all God does (Eph. 2:18)

What does the Holy Spirit do?

- Convicts (John 16:8)
- Indwells (Rom. 8:9)
- Fills (Eph. 5:18)
- Helps (John 14:26)
- Empowers (Eph. 3:16)
- Counsels (Isa. 11:2)
- Leads (Gal. 5:25)
- Illuminates (1 Cor. 2:12)
- Intercedes (Rom. 8:26)
- Gives gifts (1 Cor. 12:11)
- Provides (Phil. 1:19)
- Connects (Eph. 2:18)
- Unifies (Eph. 4:3)
- Sanctifies (2 Cor. 3:18; 1 Pet. 1:2)
- Shares (Phil. 2:1; 2 Cor. 13:14)

The God of Hope

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The Holy Spirit is the empowering Source for our faith which is to produce joy and peace and hope.

Summary

The God of hope:

- **keeps His promises (8)**
- **is a merciful God who is not willing that anyone perish (9-12)**
- **wants to fill us with all joy and believe in believing (13).**
- **gives us His Holy Spirit to enable this experience (13).**

Summary

- **The God of hope wants us to abound in hope.**

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The God of hope wants His people to experience joy and peace in believing and to abound in hope.