

## **OUR GOD OF HOPE**

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*

*Romans 15:13*

### **REFLECTION**

In Paul's letter to the Roman believers, he paints a lively and active relationship between the God of hope and His people. The God of hope starts by filling them with all joy and peace, they respond by trusting in Him. And as a result, their lives overflow with hope because of the power of the Holy Spirit that is working in them.

What do you think of the dynamic relationship that Paul has described above? It is not always easy to be hopeful, especially in times of uncertainties. Part of us understand that we have hope in God, yet at the same time, the waiting and uncertainties can be difficult to manage. We know for sure that God is real but our hearts can be anxious at the same time. Yet, God's joy and peace keep us from being over anxious as we continually surrender to the knowing that He is faithful and good.

In the New Testament, hope often go together with trust and confidence; the expectation of what is sure to come; the active, faith-filled waiting for God to fulfil that which He inaugurated by the power of the Holy Spirit. Hope also carries with it the element of the "here and not yet". We have the sure hope of eternal life through the resurrection of Christ, but in this present time, as we wait in anticipation of the coming of Christ, we learn to exercise faith and confidence in God to fulfil His promises.

Today's verse is a great reminder that if we are hoping and waiting for God's intervention in our situations, we need to also look out for God's active participation in our lives as He pours out "all joy and peace" to us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us join Him by putting our trust in Him and look forward to the overflowing of hope in the days ahead.

### **PRAYER**

*O God of Hope, how good and faithful You are. Hope originates from you and we look to You as we wait in hope. Help us to trust You moment by moment and rest in the assurance of Your power in our lives. Amen.*

### **SUPPLICATION**

- Take time to recall past situations where you may have experienced God's joy, peace and hope. Give thanks to our God of Hope. You may be facing a personal crisis at the moment and you would like to experience God's joy, peace and hope. Take the time to tell Him your situation and ask Him to work in you His joy, peace and hope. Let us also pray that we will always enjoy a lively and active relationship with our God.
- Do you know of someone who is in a situation right now who needs an encounter with our God of Hope? Commit these persons before God and pray Romans 15:13 over them.
- BRMC ministers to members and their families who are homebound for various reasons. Let us pray for an overflowing of hope in the hearts of these members and their families. Let us also pray for the sweet presence of our Lord Jesus Christ to be with them always.
- Many in the world are in dire need for hope. Countries that are still fighting the pandemic as well as nations that are experiencing civil wars and infightings. As you read the newspaper this week, take the time to pray for these nations near and far that our God of Hope would intervene in those situations and show Himself sovereign and real to them.

*Our role is to maintain a relationship of continuing trust in God. Everything else is in His hands, and He never fails.*

*- Robert H. Mounce*

***If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:***

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