

# Our Hope

Hebrews 10:19-23

## I. Advent.

- A. “Advent” the Latin for “the coming” or “the arrival”. Greek = *Parousia*.
- B. Advent looks back to the first coming of Christ—His birth, and the future second coming of Christ.
- C. For four Sundays, four themes:
  - 1. Hope
  - 2. Preparation (waiting or prophecy)
  - 3. Joy (peace)
  - 4. Love (adoration)

## II. Hope.

- A. Two types of “hope”.
  - 1. Worldly hope—wishing for a good outcome, not based on anything but internal desire.
  - 2. God given hope— **“the sure and confident expectation of receiving what God has promised us in the future.”**
- B. Misplaced hope examples.
  - 1. The financial collapse of 2008—hope in material wealth which disappeared.
    - a. Chief officer of “Freddie Mac”; The French investor and Bernard Madoff’s Ponzi scheme; The Bear Sterns executive’s suicide.
  - 2. Alexis De Tocqueville—*[there is in Americans] a strange melancholy that haunts the inhabitants in the midst of abundance...*
  - 3. Despair and Sorrow.
    - a. Sorrow— *is pain for which there are sources of consolation*
    - b. Despair— *is inconsolable, because it comes from losing the ULTIMATE thing.*
  - 4. The “*God shaped hole*” (Blaise Pascal)— every person has a void in his soul/spirit/life that can only be filled by God.

III. Hebrews 10:19-23—A letter, a sermon.

- A. The goal of Hebrews—Chapter 6:1 **“Therefore leaving the elementary teachings about Christ let us press on to maturity.”**
- B. The Christian walk—you are either *drifting* (2:1) or you are *drawing near* (10:22).
- C. The tabernacle as a picture of Jesus Christ (10:19)...the source of our confidence.
  - 1. Our confidence of the work of Christ on the cross gives us the confidence and ability to “draw near” to God—Our hope.
- D. “Drifting” in chapter 2 is a nautical term meaning “not anchored”.
  - 1. (6:19 **“This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and confirmed and one which enters within the veil...”**
  - 2. The cause of drift? Neglect! (2:3) **“How will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?”**
    - a. Only those who have salvation can neglect salvation!

IV. The solution to drifting.

- A. The “salad solution” (10:21-24).
  - 1. **“Let us” draw near** (V22). What we do/Our part.
    - a. The equivalent in Hebrew means “to worship”—draw near to God.
    - b. Draw near with a sincere heart—authentic, genuine.
    - c. Draw near in full assurance of faith.
    - d. God’s part—He purifies and sanctifies us (V. 22).
  - 2. **“Let us” hold fast** (V23).
    - a. Do not let go!
    - b. Hold fast to the confession of our hope without “wavering” (couch).
  - 3. **“Let us” stimulate one another to love and good deeds** (V24).
    - A Love precedes deeds!

V. Time is short!... **not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more *as you see the day drawing near.***

## Our Hope

Hebrews 10:19-23

Advent... what is it?... Advent can be traced back to the 4th and 5th centuries in regions such as Gaul, Spain, and northern Italy, where it began as a preparatory period before Christmas involving fasting and reflection.... The term "Advent" comes from the Latin word "adventus," meaning "coming" or "arrival," signifying the anticipation of the arrival of Jesus Christ.

“*Parousia*” is the Greek equivalent of the Latin *Advent*...I claim it as the Baptist translation.

Advent symbolizes the present situation of the church in these “last days” as God’s people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom... The church is in a similar situation to Israel in the Old Testament: in exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah.

Israel looked back to God’s past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis, they called for God once again to act for them.... In the same way, the church, during Advent... *Parousia*...The Coming” looks back upon Christ’s coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ’s kingdom when he returns for his people.

Advent symbolizes the present situation of the church in these “last days...as God’s people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom....

In this light, the Advent hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” perfectly represents the church’s cry during the Advent season:

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appears.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

For the next four consecutive Sundays beginning today then concluding on Christmas Eve...we will be celebrating the themes of His comings... The four weeks of Advent [*Parousia*] are broken down into the traditional themes:

1. Hope (or promise) which is our theme this morning...
2. Peace      Preparation (waiting or prophecy)
3. Joy

## 4. Love (adoration)

## 5. Christmas Eve (5:30) We'll put it all together sharing communion.

This morning we focus on "Hope"... there are two kinds of hope... there's **worldly hope** which basically is desiring...wanting....wishing for Good outcomes...not based on anything but an internal desire for something to happen... *I hope I get this job*....Needless to say but I'll say it... this hope often disappoints.

But there is the hope only God can give and guarantee... this hope is "**the sure and confident expectation of receiving what God has promised us in the future.**" The believer's hope is not a faint or obscure weak wish but "**an anchor for the soul, firm and secure**" (**Hebrews 6:19**). In Scripture, hope is a virtuous quality because it contains no doubt, always trusting in God's faithfulness and presence no matter the circumstances, whether good or bad (Psalm 71:5).

We need this hope!...this is hope offered to all believers and followers in Jesus Christ...

Romans 5:1

**Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>2</sup> through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we boast in hope of the glory of God.<sup>3</sup> And not only this, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction brings about perseverance;<sup>4</sup> and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;<sup>5</sup> and hope does not put to shame, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.**

*Let's pray—Heavenly Father... more than ever this world needs the hope only You can give...Open our ears, hearts and minds to your word this morning... convict us of our need for Your Son... the only avenue to Your perfect hope....Amen*

Many of you remember the global economic crises that began mid 2008...many reasons for the financial crash... it all boils down plain financial greed....hearts set on and obsessed with financial wealth at any cost... which resulted in financial collapse.

Most of us were affected by it in some way... some devastated by it...watching our retirement funds disappear... it is estimated that 8.7 million jobs were lost in the United States...one in four households lost 75% of their net financial worth...Lives were destroyed...(lives should never be destroyed over financial collapse).

- The chief officer of “Freddie Mac”...the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation hanged himself in his basement.
- A chief executive of a leading U.S. real estate auction firm shot himself in the head behind the wheel of his shiny red Jaguar.
- A French money manager in charge of the wealth of Europe’s royal and leading families who lost 1.4 billion dollars of his client’s money in the infamous Bernard Madoff’s Ponzi scheme... slit his wrists and died in his Madison Avenue office.
- You might remember the Bear Stearns executive learned of his immense financial loss overdosed on drugs and threw himself off the 29<sup>th</sup> floor of his office building.

I remember studying Alexis De Tocqueville in High School first then college (Do they still do that?)... he had much to say about the American obsession with prosperity and the tragedies that resulted...

Famously he said [*there is in Americans*] *a strange melancholy that haunts the inhabitants in the midst of abundance...*

In other words... especially in our American culture there is the belief that prosperity... the acquiring of things... and wealth... can quench the yearning for happiness... De Tocqueville concludes... *the incomplete joys of this world will never satisfy the human heart.*

Man longs for abundance so man seeks abundance... he gets it... but it doesn’t satisfy the deep longings of the heart...there is a *melancholy*.

This strange melancholy manifests in many ways...but it always leads to the same *despair* of not finding what is sought... Years ago Timothy Keller wrote a very insightful book on idols...*Counterfeit Gods*... in it he defines the difference between *despair and sorrow*...

*Sorrow is pain for which there are sources of consolation ...for example...If you experience a career reversal you lose your job...you can find comfort in your family to get you through it... that’s sorrow... but despair?*

*Despair is inconsolable, because it comes from losing the ULTIMATE thing...now hear this...when you lose the ultimate source of your meaning... **you lose your hope**... there are no alternative sources to turn to... It breaks your spirit..*

De Tocqueville says the cause of this melancholy that permeates our society even during times of immense prosperity is “*from taking some incomplete joy of this world and building an entire life on it*

All those 2008 suicides had this in common... each person had placed their ultimate hope in “*an incomplete joy of this world*”...specifically in their cases....material wealth.... It was the ultimate source of meaning in their lives... and when it was gone... they had no hope...

I did not share those tragic incidents to sink our spirits this morning... but to contrast the good news that this book offers... that if embraced... tragic incidents like those would never come close to happening...because this book reveals to us the ONLY complete joy that our lives can and should be built on.

Related to all this is *The God Shaped Hole* (Blaise Pascal) and later embraced by C.S. Lewis:

The “God-shaped hole” concept states that every person has a void in his soul/spirit/life that can only be filled by God. The “God-shaped hole” is the innate longing of the human heart for something outside itself, something transcendent, something “other.”

Ecclesiastes 3:11 refers to God’s placing of “**eternity in man’s heart.**” God made humanity for His eternal purpose, and only God can fulfill our desire for eternity. All religion is based on the innate desire to “connect” with God. This desire can only be fulfilled by God, and therefore can be likened to a “God-shaped hole.”

In that I’m speaking to mostly Christians this morning... we all intellectually know that God is the only one who can indeed fill that void in our lives... we know that only through Jesus Christ can we have a hope that endures and will come to fruition.

But we also struggle with living our lives completely centered and empowered on and by this hope... we struggle... we get derailed in our Christian walk... we fail... we sometimes feel that God is not near or He’s not there at all...this is usually caused by letting the stuff of this world...**the incomplete joys** displace those **complete joys** that only God can give.

I love the New Testament book of Hebrews... The writer of Hebrews whose identification is not revealed to us in the book... gives us some great instruction and insight into living in light of this great hope we as believers have available to us.

Hebrews is the only book of the Bible I’ve preached through twice... it is one of the first books I preached through... the first time back in 2004... the second time around 2014... if I preached through it today...it would be all different... it’s a book that keeps on revealing amazing truths.

There are many things going on in Hebrews... we get doctrine... we get the person of Jesus Christ... who He is...the high priesthood of Christ... the work of Christ....what the atonement of Jesus Christ has accomplished...you really should spend some time in Hebrews!

But Hebrews is also a “pastoral document”... in light of all the doctrine and revelation on Jesus Christ... the book tells us *how we should then live* [to borrow from Francis Schaeffer]...this book of Hebrews is a letter... but many commentators believe it is a written sermon... an exhortation on how to live out these essential doctrines... or teachings revealed to us by God.

Chapter 6:1 reveals the goal of Hebrews... **Therefore leaving the elementary teachings about Christ... let us press on to maturity....** I like what David Allen reminds us that... *the Christian life is not a life of perfection... it is a life of progression...*you’re going somewhere.

Are we progressing in our Christian lives?... or are we allowing those *incomplete joys of the world* to infiltrate into our lives...pushing out the “*complete joys of life*”?...Distracting us and eventually taking over our passions....resulting in an **empty hope** in something that cannot deliver?

Are you taking one step forward in your Christian walk every day or are you straying off the path seeking satisfaction and purpose in those temporary, fleeting empty promises of the world?... According to the book of Hebrews... **you are either Drifting (Hebrews 1-4)...or you are “drawing near” Hebrews 10:19-25.**

There are no other options... I often tell our couples before they get married... you are either moving forward or backwards in your marriage... there is no standing still in the same place... standing still is moving backwards.... The same for the Christian life.

I was NOT in the marching band in Highschool...I was on the football team... as far as football players were concerned [me]...to be in the band was the lowest form of life... that was because our high school treasured our 156 member nationally recognized marching band over the football team!...people came to the games to watch halftime.

I always wondered why the band would march onto the field in “step”... all together... then they would stop but keep marching... going nowhere... I didn’t realize that’s a “thing”... they have a name for it.... Anyone here know what that is called....*Marking Time*.... You are not moving forward... you are not moving backward... you are not going ANYWHERE...you are just “marking time”....

You cannot *Mark Time* in your Christian life...**you are either drifting or drawing near**...Hebrews 2:1-4 **For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away**....we drift away our hope begins to dissipate...

For this reason we must **pay much closer attention** to what we have heard, lest we drift away.<sup>2</sup> For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every trespass and disobedience received a just penalty,<sup>3</sup> how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? **That salvation,** first spoken by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard,<sup>4</sup> God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

That's the background... the context... in light of all that... the author of Hebrews begins in Chapter 10:19

**19 Therefore, brothers, *since we have confidence* to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,<sup>20</sup> by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh,<sup>21</sup> and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God,**

Here's where the practical living comes in... because of all that being true... what was that?... The tabernacle then the temple were pictures of the future reality of Jesus Christ and His atonement for our sins giving us access to God...

- The outer courts... the people's courts
- The Holy place where the priest had access to... this is where the sacrifices would be offered... remember that "Holy" means "Set apart"... God is set apart from sinful man
- The Holy of Holies... the presence of God... only the high priest could enter... once a year.
- A large veil separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies...
- When Jesus died... the perfect sacrifice... shedding of His blood for our sins...
- Through His blood... the veil comes down

Verse 22... **Let us draw near**... not drift... but intentionally, pointedly move in the direction that will give and bolster our hope in Jesus Christ....

**Read verses 22-25**

**Drifting or drawing near**.... Drifting back in chapter 2 is a nautical term meaning **not being anchored**... the author of Hebrews follows up with this idea of not being anchored resulting in drifting by saying in chapter 6:19:

**This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and confirmed and one which enters within the veil...**

Drifting diminishes our hope... our hope in Jesus Christ our anchor... when we detach from the anchor we drift... and as this verse tells us... **This hope in Jesus Christ is the anchor of our soul!**

What causes drift?... Hebrews 2 says **neglect**....<sup>3</sup> **how will we escape if *we neglect* so great a salvation?**... neglect... so great a salvation... if you doubt this passage was written to believers... think of this... *You can't neglect something you don't have...*

- *You can't neglect your spouse unless you have a spouse.*
- *You can't neglect your houseplants unless you have house plants.*
- *You can't neglect your homework unless you have homework.*



The writer says **how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?**... you can't neglect salvation if you don't have salvation... you can refuse...reject...you can ignore...but you can only neglect something that you already have.

Believers can NEGLECT their salvation!...this can only happen to believers... and it is a great, great danger...what causes drifting?...neglect... why are so many Christians living their lives in anxiety, frustration, fear? Resulting in diminished unrealized hope?.... they've neglected all the glorious implications and realities of their salvation!.

[**Flight attendant preflight instructions**... "*Should the plane **land** in the water, grab your seat cushion for a floatation device*...that's not a landing....that's a crash!"...why doesn't anyone pay attention?...and why those poor stewardesses aren't extremely engaged in their instructing?....I've noticed....two reasons:

1. They've heard it all before many times.
2. They don't believe the danger is serious enough to warrant their attention.

This is what happens when you drift... the Bible is not as alive anymore...it's not as exciting anymore... you've heard the stories... so you don't read it every day for food... as you drift your days continue on and on...same ole same ole... whether or not you read God's Word or not... the danger of neglecting your salvation is not so much a danger anymore.

It's like when you sin... a lightning bolt from heaven doesn't come down and strike you... in fact most sins seem to have little or no consequences... so drifting is easy...the path of least resistance.

So what is the answer to this situation.... What is the antidote?...Hebrews 10:19-25

I. 19-20 is the background of Hebrews ... pointing to the details of the purpose and relevance of the tabernacle and the relationship with Jesus Christ.... Read Hebrews!

II. 21-24 the "salad section"... three "lettuces" or imperatives... commands...all beginning with "**Let us...**" verse 22let us **Draw near**... Verse 23let us **Hold fast**... Verse 24 let us **Stimulate one another to love and good deeds**.

Notice the order... **Draw near** is you and God, your vertical relationship...**Hold fast** is you and your own heart and commitment, your internal relationship...**stimulate one another to love and good deeds**... is your relationship with others, the horizontal and external relationship...

I wish all passages in Scripture was so easy and clear to preach on... this is such a complete concise admonition to the Christian... Draw near, hold fast, stimulate others... who is left out?...NOBODY!

You want to keep your hope real and vibrant?... embrace these imperatives directly from God!... you want to press on to spiritual maturity?...you want to stop any spiritual drift in your life?...do you want the hope of Jesus Christ to engulf you?

Maybe you've already drifted so far out to sea you have no idea where you are... Here's what God prescribes through this Hebrew writer.

## 1. Let us draw near

### Read verse 22

I find it interesting that these two words in the English... **“Draw near”**...is one word in the Greek...and the Old Testament Hebrew equivalent to that Greek word could be translated as *“Worship”*...

What is it that you do when you worship God?... **You draw near to Him**... a family would go to the temple...or tabernacle... walk into the outer court with their lamb to offer for sacrifice...in the inner court the priest would take the sacrifice and offer up as a their sacrifice to God...

He would take the lamb... kill it... take the blood and the lamb is cut up and place it on the alter for burning... a burnt offering... the Old Testament tells us that then the priest will usher that family to **“Draw near”** to God in worship...that's the picture here in Hebrews 10.

By the way... that word does not suggest a moment of worship... you come to a worship service... “Worship” for an hour or two and go home and do it again the next Sunday... no... *“naw-fal”*... is to be in an ongoing constant state of worship...a word that describes your walk with God.

In this verse he tells us how to do it...

1. **Let us draw near with a sincere heart**...a genuine heart, no hypocrisy... Someone said *You can't be a hypocrite before God—He knows all about you*... How foolish are we to stand before God trying to pretend to be something we're not!...you might fool me but you can't fool God.

2. **Let us draw near...in full assurance of faith**....complete confidence in your faith... not doubting.... Look at verse 19...**Since we have a confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus Christ**... Confidence can be exchanged with the word “boldness”....all that is WHY we can draw near to God...we are sincere in heart and confident of the work Jesus did on the cross on our behalf.

Those two are what *we do*... then he gives us two things only God can do to make it possible for us to draw near.

1. **Having [had] our hearts sprinkled [clean] from an evil conscience**... 2. **And our bodies washed with pure water**.

This is right from the Old Testament...These describe to these Hebrews what the priest did in that outer court [Remember these are Jews listening to this sermon!... that's why it's called “Hebrews”!] ...

The priest would prepare the people to enter by having them washed at the brazen laver... they would prepare themselves by the sprinkling of blood... purification (water) and sanctification (blood) ... all that ceremony was second nature to the Hebrews in the Old Testament they understood what this writer is saying...

The writer uses that to show them what God does to and for the believer in Jesus Christ... God sprinkles the believer clean... He sanctifies through the blood of Jesus Christ... all that making the believer pure so that he can approach Him!...so that we can “draw near”.... **Are you drawing near?**

Think about this... where is Jesus right now?... He’s right next to you!... where are you right now?...next to Him?... a strange thought isn’t it?... that He is standing right next to you and you are miles away from Him?...what that says is *it’s on us!...we are as close to Jesus as we want to be.*

Jeremiah 29:12-14

*<sup>12</sup> Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup> And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. <sup>14</sup> I will be found by you, says the Lord...*

Draw near...

## **2. Let us hold fast**

### **Read verse 23**

“Hold fast”... grip it and not let go... to take possession of something...the idea that if you fell off a cliff... and you were fortunate enough to grab onto a tree branch protruding from the wall of the cliff... what would you do?... Hold fast... never let go!... for your life!

What do we often do as Christians?... we hold fast until some little problem or difficulty comes into our lives...some disappointment... some bad news... we let go...Over the years I have learned it doesn’t take much for people to drop out of church... then drop out of their Christian walk.

*Why did you leave the church?... Nobody said anything to me... that’s tragic!... but don’t let it derail your walk with God! ... If you follow Trinity on Facebook... I don’t...but we’re there...there was one comment a couple years ago... it said *Don’t go to Trinity they are the most unwelcoming church I’ve every been to...**

We try to check up on those.... It turns out they visited once, got to church late... sat in the back row and scooted out the door before the last hymn was finished...now.... SOMETHING was unwelcoming to them....

This church is mostly made up of sinners who are redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ... but still have the potential to be pathetic... including your pastors....but Christians sometimes have a grip problem... we don't hold fast.

What would it take for you to drift away from Jesus... to let go of your "hold"?...NOTHING should!

What are we to hold fast to?...**the confession of our hope....** How?...**without wavering...** now follow me here...**Without wavering** is **aklines** [ak-len-ay] in the Greek...Greek can be overdone in a sermon but the etymology of this word is very interesting...to me...

We get the word "clinic" from *Aklines*... In Greek... "clinic" literally means "couch"... what is a clinic?... it is the place with a couch... it's where you go when you don't feel well... you walk into a clinic...and the nurse does what?... has you lay down on the "couch"...[a hard table with paper on it!].

The clinic is the "couch place"... *aklines* literally means "no couch"!... so what the Hebrew author is saying is **You are to hold on to the confession of your faith in Jesus Christ NO COUCH**... you have a disturbance in life?... a tragedy in life?... a disappointment?... you keep going on!...NO COUCH....you don't go and lay down... **You hold fast.**

Why and how can we do that?... **Because He who promised is faithful....** You can hold fast if you realize He is faithful to come through with what He promised.

### 3. Let us stimulate one another to love and good deeds.

#### Read verse 24

Some of you will like this... that word "stimulate" in the Greek is a medical term...it literally means to *a violent shaking*... sometimes when someone collapses and goes unconscious... to revive them you violently shake them up!

Some of you prefer the Old King James translation... instead of "Stimulate" or "Spur one another" NIV... it says to **provoke** one another...you prefer that translation... you've identified that as your spiritual gift!

Here the word is used positively... we are to stir one another...provoke...spur on... stimulate one another with what?...to love and good deeds....**love comes first then the action of good deeds follows.**

**Who can I stir up to love Jesus more?**

**Who can I stimulate to walk in a manner worthy of their calling...the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

**Who can I spur on by encouragement to hold tight to their confession.**

**Who can I provoke to see the great hope with have only in Jesus Christ?**

What if we all had this attitude here in this church...what would happen!

### Read verse 25

The Christian was designed by God to be in community with other Christians... *But they are all hypocrites!... they all say one thing but do another... they all look good on Sunday you should see them on Monday!*

Precisely!... That's exactly why God wants us to be in community!... God always grows His children through adversity!...He puts us together to grow us through our imperfections... but don't overlook what we are to do when we come together...

**Encourage one another....**that is something that can't happen when you are by yourself.... The world is not getting better... life is not getting easier... but we have a great hope...

Romans 5:3-4 - ... **but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character,... hope.**

Now... don't miss the final words in verse 25... Advent looks back 2000 years ago when the Jews were waiting and looking for the coming of the Lord...HE CAME... now...2000 years later... we Christians are waiting for the second coming of our lord...the second advent.

This Hebrew writer senses the urgency of this inevitable second advent of Jesus Christ in all these admonitions...

### Re-read verse 25

**That day is closer than it has ever been!....now is the time to draw near... now is the time to hold fast... now is the time to stimulate one another...Jesus will return.**

Listen to the Hebrew writer a few chapters to the right... Chapter 12:1-3

**Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, laying aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us, let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,<sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.<sup>3</sup> For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary, fainting in heart.**

### Let's Pray

Romans 15:13 ~ **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.**