

The God of Hope

Romans 15.1-13 covers the basis for Christian unity and togetherness. This is all based on the saving work of Jesus, 15.8. God sent Jesus to validate His truthfulness and give mercy to the Gentiles. He wants to fill our lives with peace and joy, causing us to abound in hope. Do you abide in this hope?

I. Romans 15.8-13 - Jesus is the basis of our hope.

- A. 15.8 - Jews and Gentiles are under view here. Salvation for all.
- B. 15.9-12 - The Gentiles have reason to rejoice.
 - 1. 15.9 - *Praise*. (Psalm 18.49)
 - 2. 15.10 - *Rejoice*. (Deuteronomy 32.43)
 - 3. 15.11 - *Praise and extolling of God*. (Psalm 1.17)
 - 4. 15.12 - The Gentiles have hope in ... Christ. (Isaiah 11.1, 10)
- C. 15.13 - What does God want to fill you with?

II. God validates our hope through Jesus' resurrection.

- A. 1 Corinthians 15 - Paul defines the gospel. (15.3-4)
- B. In every case, the NT treats the event as a historical act. Ephesians 1.20-21.

III. Romans 10.9-10: Our salvation is tied to the resurrection.

- A. 10.9-10 - Salvation comes by our belief in the resurrection.
- B. Why is the resurrection so important? Why does Paul isolate it here? *The resurrection, once and for all, proved the validity of Jesus' earthly mission.*
- C. Romans 1.1 - *The gospel of God* - the good news of salvation through Christ.
 - 1. 1.3 - What's the gospel about? (1.3-4). See also Hebrews 1.3.
 - 2. 4.24-25 - The resurrection proves Jesus accomplished salvation on the cross.
- D. Acts 13.32-33 - How were the promises God gave fulfilled?
- E. Acts 16.30-33 - The jailer and family were baptized. This proves what?
- F. Acts 17.30 - Why must we repent? 17.31b.
- G. 1 Peter 1.3 - What is the energy behind our living hope?

Conclusion:

- A. Christians have been promised an abundant life, lived with confident expectation of eternal salvation in heaven with our heavenly Father.
 - 1. Romans 15.13 - The Christian life is all about joy and peace. Is this the present experience of your life?
- B. 1 John 3.1-3 - Let that hope transform you into the kind of person God has designed.