

Information that Will Help Us to Always Rejoice

(Romans 8:18-39)

Introduction:

1. In our study of "joy" last Wednesday evening, we pointed out from Philippians 4:4 that Christians are to always rejoice in the Lord.
2. This can be challenging.
3. Thankfully, some valuable information is presented in Romans 8:18-39 that will help us to always rejoice.

Discussion:

- I. (vs.18-25) CHRISTIANS HAVE "HOPE"
 - A. Several statements identify this hope -- "eternal life."
 1. Vs.18 mentions *"the glory which shall be revealed in us."*
 2. Vs.23 mentions *"the redemption of our body."*
 - B. The Bible has much to say about the hope of eternal life.
 1. We learn from Titus 1:2 that God promised it *"before the world began"* -- His promise is dependable because God *"cannot lie."*
 2. This hope is available to everyone, but only certain people have it.
 - a. (Ephesians 2:12) Those who are outside of Christ have no hope.
 - b. Thankfully, Jesus shed His blood so we can have it (Ephesians 2:13).
 3. When we get into Christ we have the hope of spending eternity with Him.
 - C. Let us notice some additional information given in Romans 8 concerning "hope."
 1. (vs.24a) *"We are saved by hope."*
 - a. We have identified the "hope" under consideration -- "eternal life."
 - b. Do we have it now?
 - 1) No, if we had it now, we would not have to wait for it.
 - 2) "Hope" is based on the future [things we cannot actually see now].
 - 3) God has promised eternal life, but He will not give it until the judgment.
 - 4) We have to be patient while we wait for our hope to become a reality.
 2. As we wait for our hope to become a reality, we will be tested.
 - a. There are some unpleasant things in this life that we must endure.
 - 1) (vs.22) The whole creation groans and travails in pain.
 - 2) (vs.23) Christians groan within themselves.
 - b. We must not allow these things to overcome us.
 - c. They may make us "groan," but we must not allow them to defeat us.
 3. If we maintain our hope, we will be able to face difficulties with "patience."

- D. "Hope" helps us to remain faithful to the Lord so we can receive the reward He has promised (Revelation 2:10).
- II. CHRISTIANS RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM TWO GREAT SOURCES
 - A. (vs.26-27) The Holy Spirit intercedes on behalf of those who are in Christ.
 - B. (vs.34) Christ also intercedes on behalf of those who have gotten into Him.
- III. (vs.28-30) CHRISTIANS KNOW THAT GOD WORKS PROVIDENTIALLY FOR THEIR GOOD
 - A. Please note that this blessing is only available to certain ones.
 - B. Many Bible characters illustrate this Bible principle (Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Daniel, Naomi and Ruth, Esther, etc).
 - C. These men and women trusted God to take care of them (Hebrews 11:13-16).
- IV. (vs.31-33) CHRISTIANS HAVE PROTECTION
 - A. (vs.31) *"If God be for us, who can be against us?"* (Hebrews 13:5b-6)
 - B. (vs.32) Since God gave His Son to die for us, will He not provide the things we need?
 - C. (vs.33) Since God has justified us, who can possibly charge us with anything?
- V. (vs.35-39) CHRISTIANS CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM DIVINE LOVE
 - A. Can anyone or anything separate us from the love of Christ?
 - B. Can anyone or anything separate us from the love of God?

Conclusion:

1. Romans 8:18-39 is a special text of Scripture.
2. It reveals some valuable information will help us to always rejoice.
3. Let us read and meditate upon this information on a regular basis.