

Edward Christian Church **“Hope -The Anchor of Your Soul”** -pt 3

What an **Anchor** is to a **Ship**, **Hope** is to the **Soul**. They both **Stabilize - Hold Steady** amidst the **Storms** in life. **Every Christian** has been given a **Secure Anchor** in the **Person of Christ**...

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." -Heb 6:19

▪ **What Is the Difference Between Faith and Hope?**

Sometimes **two words** can be so **intertwined** that it is difficult to **distinguish** between them. Such as *faith* and *hope*. Although the two **overlap**, the Bible does **differentiate** between them. One **verse** in the Bible lists *faith* and *hope* together with *love*. Exploring the **ways** these two words are used in Scripture will shed light on both their **uniqueness** and **similarity**.

"These three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." -1 Corinthians 13:13

▪ **Differences Between Faith and Hope**

Hope is an **Assured Promise**, whereas **faith** **Is Acting Out** that **Promise**. **Faith** is **Hope** put into **Action**.

Having Hope that we **can be secure** is **necessary** in order to be **held secure**. *Acting in Faith* is necessary so that our **Hope** is not merely a **Mental Concept**, but rather a **Living Hope**—a **Guaranteed Hope** that becomes a **reality** when we *experience* an **Anchored Life**.

- **Our Hope** in Jesus is based on the **Promise of God**. God the Father promised that God the Son would be the Savior of the world, thus our *Hope* is **Jesus**.
 - *By faith* we **Receive** Jesus into our **hearts and lives**; therefore, *Faith* is the means by which we actually
- **Our Hope** in Jesus *prompts* us to step out in *Faith*, taking **God at His Word**
 - *Our faith* is **motivated** by our **Hope**,/ *Faith* is the means by which we **benefit** from our *Hope*.
- **Our Hope** for **sustaining** physical life resides in *believing* in the **benefit of food** (accepting the fact that eating food is necessary to stay alive).
 - *Our faith* is **exercised** when we actually *eat food* for sustenance.
- **Our Hope** for **sustaining** spiritual life **resides** in **Jesus** (accepting the fact that Jesus is **necessary** to have **eternal life**).
 - *Our faith* in His **ability** to give us eternal life is **exercised** as we **receive** Jesus into our lives.
- **Our Hope** for staying alive is our **confident assurance** in the **merit** of food; however, if we have *No Hope* in the merit of food, **we will not eat**.
 - *By faith*, we eat food to stay alive, but by not eating, we will *prematurely die*.
- *Our hope* for eternal life is Jesus, but if we *refuse to have hope* in Him, *we will die* and spend **eternity separated** from Him
 - *Placing our faith* in Christ is the means by which we *take hold of our hope* in Him and **receive all the benefits** of having Christ, including living throughout eternity in heaven with Him.

Christ has **set you** on His **course**, **first** to **save you** and then to **conform** you into **His Character**. Having the *assurance of hope* is necessary *before* you can *act in faith*. Then, you *act in faith* *because* of your *hope*. Ultimately, the Bible says that your *hope* is the **catalyst** that **produces your faith**.

"We have heard of your faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel." -Colossians 1:4-5
