

**Introduction**

1. These were: "faith, hope, charity"
2. We need all three as Christians
3. Only the believer has all three

**1. THE BELIEVER NEEDS HOPE**

- 1) Faith refers largely to the past and present:
  - (i) by faith we grasp the facts of Christ's work
  - (ii) by faith we believe for salvation now
- 2) But Hope has reference to the future:
  - (i) what we look for after death
  - (ii) what we look for on Christ's return
- 3) So there are various elements in salvation:
  - (i) we are saved meritoriously by Christ's blood
  - (ii) we are saved instrumentally by faith
  - (iii) we are saved declaratively by works
  - (iv) we are sustained emotionally by hope
- 4) Hope is a joyful emotion of the soul:  
**ILLUSTRATION**:
  - (i) a man is told he will leave prison
  - (ii) a woman is told she will have child**OBSERVE**: This joy upholds us in this life

**2. GOD EXPLAINS TO US WHAT OUR HOPE IS**

- 1) Terms in God's word:
  - (i) "good hope": Cp. that of unbelievers
  - (ii) "anchor of the soul": **ILLUSTRATION**: ship at sea
  - (iii) "sure and stedfast": **ILLUSTRATION**: mountaineer
  - (iv) "entereth within the veil": Explain

- (v) "Christ in you, the hope of glory"
- (vi) "hope that is seen is not hope..."
- (vii) "hope maketh not ashamed..."

- 2) The effect of hope in the soul is to give it health and happiness:
  - (i) "the God of hope fill...all joy and peace"
  - (ii) "not ashamed because the love of God..."
  - (iii) "this is the promise that he hath promised"
- 3) The basis of all our hope is God's promises
  - (i) "yea and Amen in Christ". Explain.
  - (ii) "God that cannot lie promised"
  - (iii) These promises are fitted to all circumstances:
    - a. to trouble: Ps. 20
    - b. to illness: Ps. 41
    - c. to man's cruelty: Ps. 56:3-4
    - d. the approach of death: Ps. 23
    - e. facing the Judgement: 1 John 4:17**OBSERVE**: Hope is a most important grace

**3. WE MUST ALLOW OUR HOPE TO FILL OUR SOUL**

- 1) We none of us do so: **ILLUSTRATION**: a thermometer
- 2) In time of trouble + need, plead the promises
- 3) Rehearse the promises at night
- 4) Look back and see how true they are
- 5) Fortify your assurance in God's promises  
**ILLUSTRATION**: the fall of Haman

**CONCLUSION**

Look at our text!

<b>PSALM</b>
<b>20: 1 – 6</b>
<b>46: 7 – 11</b>
<b>27: 11 – 14</b>