

have Christ in you? Is He reigning in your heart and life, and is that your greatest desire, prayer, and aim every day again? The Apostle Paul urged all to not just hear about Christ, the Hope of glory, but to trust Him and have Him in their hearts.

*“Christ in you, the Hope of glory.”* In this message, I'm not just telling you great things about Jesus, but calling all truly to trust and follow after Him. You only always go wrong and remain with no hope of glory now or evermore, continuing resistant and rebellious against Jesus Christ, the Saviour, the Hope of glory, but you can't go wrong with, by God's grace, Christ in you as the Hope of Glory!

Saying that also brings me to our last point about triumphing through this Name of Christ, the Hope of glory. This is the gospel truth; you may triumph in life and over sin, self, and Satan and this world, and even triumph over death, and in the Day of Judgment with Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord! Life becomes so meaningful and useful and joyful and hopeful and delightful with Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord. *“Happy is he that has the God of Jacob for his Help, Whose hope is in the Lord His God”*, exclaims Psalm 146:5! To live and die always knowing and trusting that no matter what, you have the Hope of glory, endless glory to come for body and soul, that gives a jubilation and security and confidence and comfort and direction in life that beats all. It surpasses by leaps and bounds whatever treasures and pleasures all this sinful godless world could ever offer you or me. There is no other way to go and live on in life from strength to strength and glory to glory, with things becoming more bright and hopeful with each passing day and year except you know Jesus and have Christ in you, He Who is called, *the hope of glory.*

*“Christ in you, the hope of glory”.* You have been told about Him as such that you might trust in Him and triumph in life and death and forevermore through Him. Will the God-given fruit also of this message be for you, “Christ in you, the Hope of glory”? Amen.

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**BANNER OF TRUTH RADIO BROADCAST**

*Radio Ministry of the FREE REFORMED CHURCHES of North America*

*Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee that it may be displayed because of the truth. (Psalm 60:4)*



### JESUS – THE HOPE OF GLORY

The Lord Jesus Christ is given many names and titles in the Bible. Each of His over 180 names and titles proclaim Jesus as just the Saviour of sinners so awesome and necessary for you and me. It should be clear too that all Jesus' names and titles together don't fully describe His greatness and glory as only Saviour and Lord. The title or name we have before us is found in Colossians 1:27 where Jesus is referred to as “the hope of glory.” We will look at the following three points on this theme:

1. Telling about this Name,
2. Trusting in this Name
3. Triumphing through this Name

Jesus Christ can be called, and is named in our text, Colossians 1:27, as “the hope of glory.” Maybe you think, ‘What is the big deal about that?’, but then consider the following thoughts about this Name, as I tell you about it.

Let us focus first on this word, glory. What does glory mean? It means something very wonderful and, as it were, just out of this world! When it is a very beautiful day sometimes we might say, ‘What a glorious day it was today!’ Glory means splendour, success, and status before God and all others; glory means power, peace, permanence; glory has to do with harmony with God and all others and with holiness before God and man, and happiness before God and man; glory has to do with reconciliation with God and relationship with God and all the riches of God for us and with us! Glory has to do with heaven, you could say, and in II Corinthians 4:17, heaven is referred to as *“an exceeding and eternal weight of glory.”* Glory has to do with salvation from God, and the Spirit of God in us, and the Saviour God all for us. John writes about Jesus, *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth!”* [John 1:14]

Glory has to do with the mercy and majesty of God in and through Christ Jesus. Glory has to do with escape from sin, Satan, death, hell, and holy, real, eternal welcome with God for now and forever! Glory has to do with what really counts as all important and what is more precious than gold and of eternal value and benefit to us for body and soul for now and forever. Glory is the opposite of misery, the opposite of evil, the opposite of failure, the opposite of disappointment, the opposite of ugly, the opposite of cheap, and the opposite of grief.

You get the picture, I think? Glory is something else! And now listen to this! Jesus' Name is, "The Hope of glory!" The Hope - what does that mean? It doesn't mean only the chance of glory, but rather the certainty of glory. Hope. Biblically speaking, the hope that Jesus, the crucified and risen Savior, has brought into this world through His saving work on behalf of sinners isn't some vague, risky, slight opportunity for something, but it tells rather of a solid and sure expectation of something. Jesus Christ is the sure, solid, everlasting hope and expectation of glory! He is the certain door to present and eternal glory! The Bible speaks of a door of hope - Jesus is that door! He is the hope of glory! In other words, if you want glory, true and eternal, you find it all in and with Him, Christ Jesus, the Hope of Glory! He is the sure means of glory for sinners like you and me! Oh, dear friends, wouldn't you say this is surely another very attractive name for Jesus, and another reason all the more truly and steadfastly to pay attention to Him, and belong to Him, and believe in Him, and follow after Him? Christ is the Hope of glory!

To put this in perspective, let us just reflect on what is our natural condition and prospect left to ourselves. The Bible teaches us clearly when God made man, He created us glorious in a most glorious world, with the glorious hope of eternal splendor and peace and joy and fulfillment. But then man sinned and spoiled it all. Adam and Eve, with their fall and wicked rebellion against God when listening to and following the devil, brought this whole wide world under God's curse and all people are now in hopeless corruption and bondage of sin, humanly speaking. How does Lamentations 5:16 put it? "*The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned!*" Steeped in sin, the natural man still grasps and gasps for glory, but we can never find it or obtain it anymore on our own. We look for it in all the wrong places and in all the wrong ways, and time and time again, glory escapes us, left to ourselves, and we are left with sorrow and shame and disappointment and despair. The wages of sin is death, yes, eternal death and hell.....that is the portion of all mankind on our own.

Jesus is the only Hope of glory, and apart from Him there is no hope. You remain without hope. If you hope for glory still apart from faith in Jesus Christ and confession of your sins and sinfulness before Him and hearty devotion to Him and His Word, I must tell you that your hope is vain; you live in false hope, and are deluding and deceiving yourself about a hope that never will be yours nor can be yours. The Hope of Glory is Jesus Christ, but if you won't hear Him nor have Him, the Bible says, God Triune says, you remain in your sins. Apart from repentance from sin and faith in Christ Jesus, the only Savior and Hope of glory, be aware of this for it is the absolute gospel truth. Without Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, you remain in your sins, and you will perish without a hope, even if everyone says before you die that you will go to heaven, and after you die that you went to heaven.

The Hope of glory is Jesus. He is the one and only hope of glory. Does

this title and name of Jesus make you pay attention to the Saviour and draw you to Him? Does Jesus Christ as the Hope of glory cause you to value and prize Him above all, or not? Imagine if Jesus Christ was a fraud and the Christian religion not the ultimate reality, then you agree this title for Jesus would be the biggest lie and the most false and wicked statement there ever could be! But we are talking about God's inspired infallible Word here. This is the absolute gospel truth for all people, all ages, all cultures, and all times! Jesus is not just a hope of glory, or *one of some hopes* for glory, no, but He is THE HOPE of GLORY!

Let me go on from telling about this Name to our second point about trusting in this name. This is what Paul and all faithful ministers of the gospel are about, not only telling people of Jesus Christ and His importance and worth as Saviour of sinners, but speaking of trusting in Him as Saviour and Lord. In Colossians 1:27, Paul doesn't just speak of Christ as the Hope of glory, but he mentions "*Christ in you, the hope of glory!*" In other words shall you and I have true and everlasting hope of glory, you must call out to Jesus Christ to be your Saviour and Lord personally. You need Christ in you and you need His salvation in your heart and life, shall it be well. Do you know of this also for yourself? Is it evident in your life that you are a person who calls out to the Lord for His saving and regenerating work in your heart and life? Just going to church, contrary to popular opinion, is not the same as being a true Christian. Christians are people who have Christ in their hearts, and who can't live without Him truly and always as their Saviour and Lord.

To have Christ in you means having a heart renewed or born again by the Holy Spirit Who works in the hearts of sinners, with God's Word bringing conviction of sin and trust in Christ Jesus as the only Saviour from sin. Do you know of being born again, and instead of having a cold and dead heart over against God and sin and the Bible, do you in your heart know of conviction of sin and repentance from sin, turning to Christ and trusting Him and following after Him as your only Saviour and Lord? People who have Christ in their hearts and lives are people who have, by the Holy Spirit's heart awakening and regenerating work, come to realize that without Christ not only are they lost, but so powerless to save themselves, and unless Christ save them initially and save them totally and preserve them continually, their case remains forever hopeless!

Christ in you, says Paul, is the Hope of glory, and the title "Christ" speaks of Jesus as the anointed Savior Who as the supreme prophet, priest, and king leads His people. Do you so call out to Jesus and ever need Him?

True Christians are those who call out to Jesus Christ, the Savior, and cling to Him, knowing He is the only Hope of glory and rejoicing in Him as the sure hope of glory, yes, in spite of our sins and sinfulness, and in spite of the unrelenting devil, and ever tempting world, and in spite of the always approaching certain reality of death! With Jesus Christ in you as your Saviour and Lord, you have the Hope of glory both for now and forevermore. Do you