

GRACE Great Good News!

August 2001

Every person who comes to Christ Life Ministries comes for essentially one reason:

HOPE

All of us wake up every day for this same reason.

God has given all of us the need to be truly loved, accepted, and valuable.

True hope is when Christ alone fulfills all of our needs (Philippians 4:19).

This past month, I heard of this true hope in an old hymn sung by contemporary singer Benny Hester.

From Christ, who "has given us good HOPE by grace" (2 Thessalonians 2:16)! Gregg ☺

THE SOLID ROCK

A cabinet maker in England, Edward Mote, wrote the hymn, "The Solid Rock," in 1832. He later became a beloved pastor who was offered the title to the church building, but said: "I do not want the chapel, I only want the pulpit; and when I cease to preach Christ, then turn me out of that." Here is the hymn God molded from that heart that was passionately focused on Christ alone:

**My HOPE is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**When darkness hides His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.**

Chorus

On Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand...all other ground is sinking sand.

"Jesus' blood" is...the taking away of all sins from you...through the death of Christ on the cross for you!

"Jesus' righteousness" is...the giving of abundant life to you...through the resurrection of Christ for you!

The world offers many "sweet" substitutes for HOPE, but be encouraged to wholly trust in Jesus' name. Having a trust relationship with Christ means you are in union with Him, and that you share His very name! We are tempted to use the word "Christian" as an adjective (e.g., Christian businessman, Christian ministry, etc) to get our focus off of the life of Christ Himself. However, the word "Christian" is a noun meaning "Christ one." Believe that God has named you His very own and has given you His very life!

When (not if) dark times come, you can rest because this identity you have in Christ through God's grace will never change! His loving face will always gaze at you! Your value is the very life of Christ **"who loved you and gave Himself for you," (Galatians 2:20)!**

In every storm in life, you have an anchor within the veil of your new heart where Christ dwells:

"This HOPE we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus," (Hebrews 6:20).

So, true HOPE is triumphantly standing in full acceptance on Christ the solid Rock based solely on His finished work through the cross!

Announcing: *Grace Life Celebration!!!*

Simpsonville, SC library conference room (capacity of 100)

Thursday evening, October 11th, from 7 to 9 (casual dress)

Testimonies of hope by discipleship teachers, pastors, prison chaplain, former inmate, others!

Plus special music.

Hosted by Christ Life Ministries. More details enclosed!

GRACE NOTE

Hope is not a wish for future good circumstances, but a present reality of the glorious life of Christ in any circumstance.

"The Lord Jesus Christ is our hope," (1 Timothy 1:1).

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