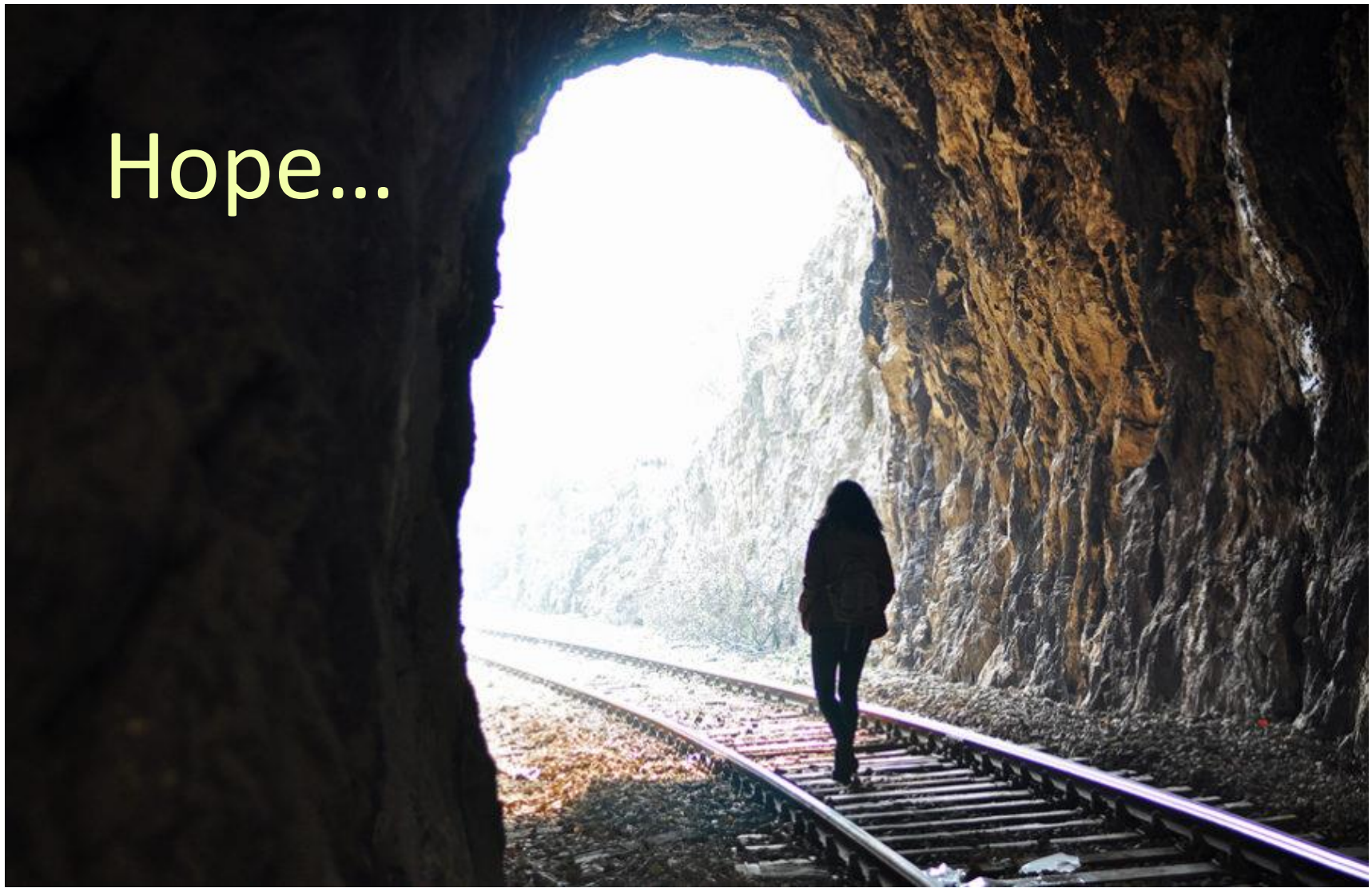


Hope...



Overview

- What is Hope?
- Different Kinds of Hope and Examples
- Issues and Considerations about Hope

What is Hope according to the Bible?

1 Cor 13:13

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

- How do these three work together and what exactly is hope?
- What comes first?

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

- Faith is a substance
- Hope comes from that substance called Faith

What is Hope according to the Bible?

Romans 5:1-3

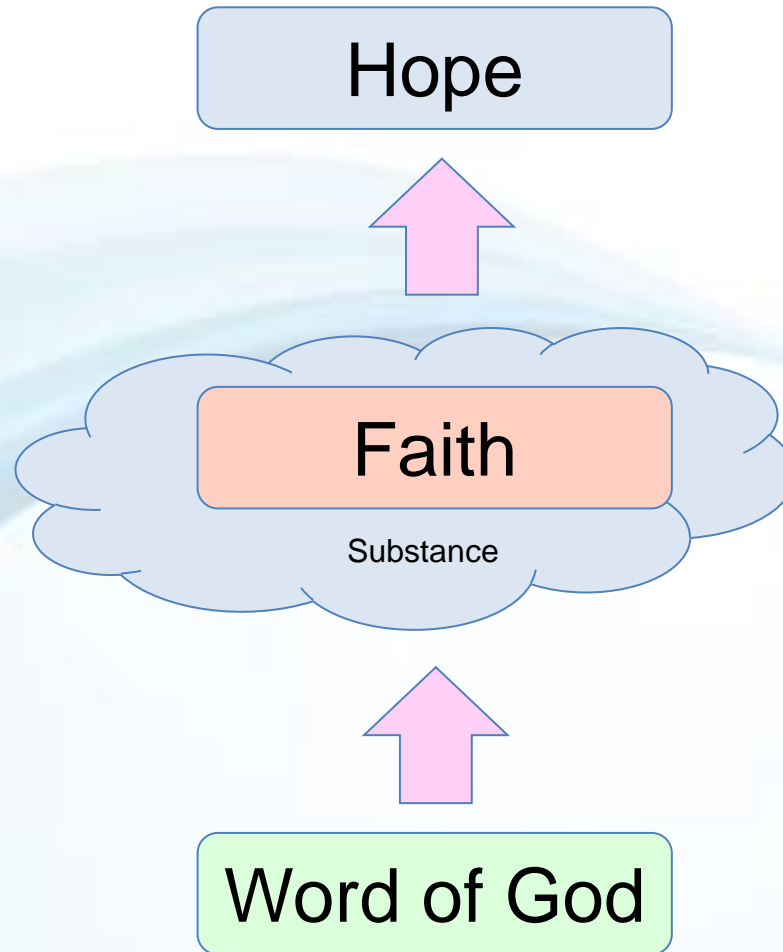
*Therefore, since we have been justified through **faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by **faith** into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the **hope** of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance.*

- Hope is the consequence of Faith. They go hand-in-hand!
- And where does Faith come from?

Romans 10:17

Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Overview of Hope and Faith



Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Romans 10:17

Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Types of Hope

- Real Hope: God provides us with a word (Testimony of Andre)
- False Hope: False prophecy or selfish prayers
(E.g.: Lottery, Person to Marry, Cooked-up Prophetic Word)
- False Hope: Praying with an Idol in your heart (Example Andre)

Ezekiel 14:4

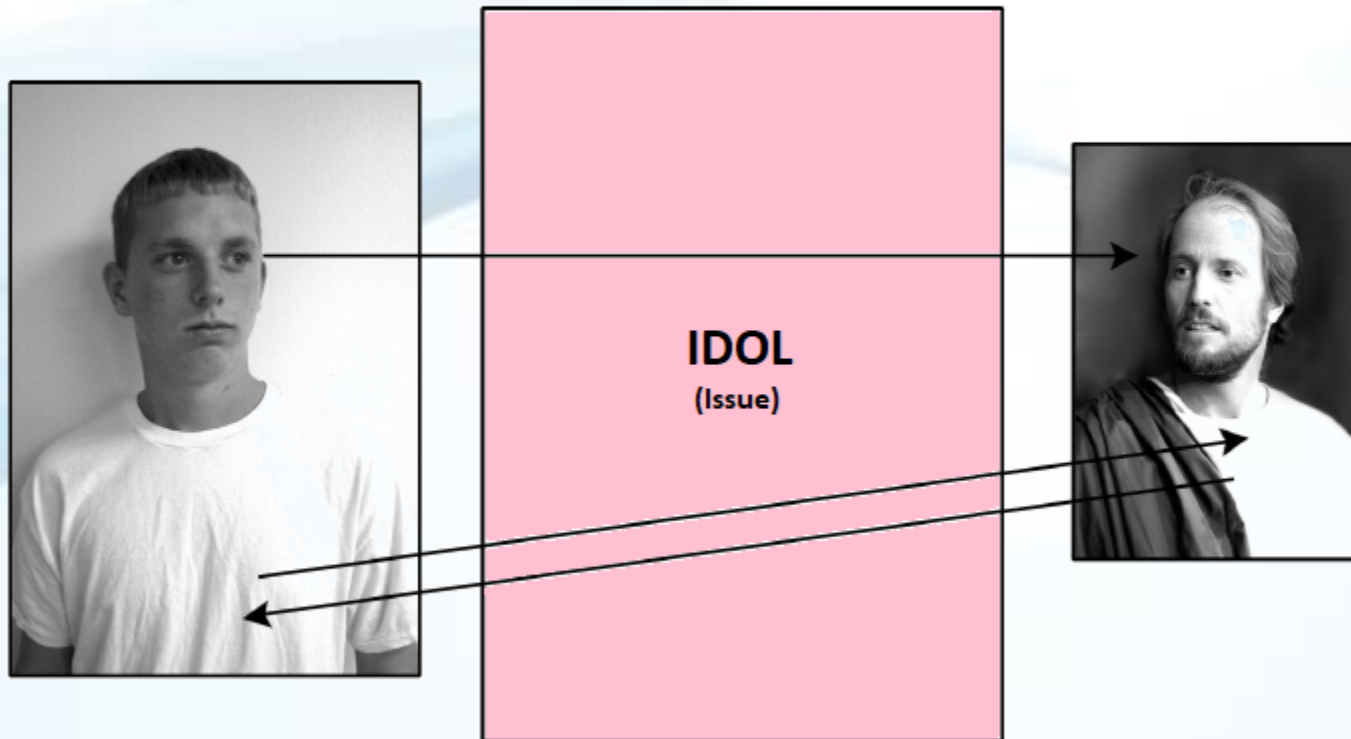
When any of the Israelites set up idols in their hearts and put a wicked stumbling block before their faces and then go to a prophet, I the Lord will answer them myself in keeping with their great idolatry.

- Check: Are our eyes fixed on Jesus or on what we pray for?

Praying with an idol in your heart

PRAYING WITH AN IDOL

“THE THING” is held more prominently in your consciousness and vision than is Jesus.



Source of Hope

Proverbs 13:12

Hope deferred makes the heart sick.

- Hope for things without having a word from God...
- God still hears us when we pray even if we get no answer...
- What do you put your hope in?

Ask God to confirm whether the things we put our hope in
are in agreement with Him...

Praying without having received a word

- Does it line up with the Bible?
 - Praying for Healing
 - Praying for someone to come to know God
- Are we praying like a widow or like a bride?
- What about: Ask and you shall receive?

John 15

*But **if** you live in **life-union** with me and **if my words** live powerfully within you—**then you can ask whatever you desire and it will be done...***

*...For as a branch severed from the vine will not bear fruit, so your life will be fruitless **unless** you live your life **intimately joined** to mine...*

Some considerations about Hope...

- Some people have prayed for many years for God to do something without seeing any results...
 - Praying for a loved one to come to know God without any fruit yet...
 - Praying for someone to be healed without seeing this come to pass...
- There is hope in knowing God hears us when we pray...
 - God knows ours hears and our needs...
 - God makes all things work together for our good – Even if we can't see any fruit!
- There is hope in the promises of His Word
 - Draw near to God and He will draw near to us
 - Resist the devil and he will flee from us...
 - Jesus return to earth (rapture/ second coming)
 - Our hope of eternity in Him...

A prayer of Hope...

Lord Jesus, thank you for loving me and for the partnership we have...

Help me to always remain in Your will and to keep my eyes fixed on You.

Lord Jesus, forgive me when I've put my hope in things that have become an idol to me.

I declare that my hope is in You alone. I believe You are good!

Thank you that You make everything work together for good even if I don't understand what you are doing. Help me to put my hope in your Word and to keep my eyes on You alone...

In Jesus name, Amen.