

March 7, 2020

Fulfilling Love

Psalm 33:5, “And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.”

Early on in the first chapter of Romans, Paul had made a bold statement in v. 16: For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. Paul’s declaration comes from a “hope” that he has in his Savior, Jesus Christ. He is not ashamed, nor will this hope put him or us to shame, because it is based on the unwavering person of Jesus. I think of the verse in the old favorite hymn - “The Solid Rock” - *My hope is built on nothing less, Than Jesus Christ, my righteousness, I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus’ name. His oath, His covenant, His blood, Support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.*

Paul’s affirmation comes from a heart that is not empty, but full of the hope that we have in Christ Jesus and also full of the love of God that has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. I mean think about the amazing thought that God Himself now lives within the hearts of every believer, everywhere. And, the term “poured out” in Greek, literally means a continuous flow of God’s love that will never end. What a blessing it is for everyone who knows the joy of their salvation, to realize that God’s love just keeps on and on and on. Nothing can stop the flow of His love. Nothing could ever separate us from His love. Nothing can stand in the way of His love. His love will never fail, but it will always fulfill. Let me finish with this last thought from the last verse of “The Solid Rock.” - When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found; Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne.

Dear Father, thank You for Your fulfilling love that will never stop, never leave, and never be taken away! I build all of my hopes on Jesus Christ and wholly lean on His Name; the name that is above every name! In Jesus Name, Amen