"Plowing in Hope"

"...Because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope..." (1 Corinthians 9:10)

Preferred Hope

<u>1 Peter 1:3-5</u> – ³ "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

Psalm 17:13-15 – ¹³ "Arise, O LORD! Confront him, subdue him! Deliver my soul from the wicked by your sword, ¹⁴ from men by your hand, O LORD, from men of the world whose portion is in this life. You fill their womb with treasure; they are satisfied with children, and they leave their abundance to their infants. ¹⁵ As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with your likeness."

Deferred Hope

<u>Proverbs 13:12</u> – "Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life."

<u>Isaiah 49:3-4</u> – ³ "And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' ⁴ But I said, "<u>I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity</u>; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God."

The Hope Within

<u>Colossians 1:27</u> – "To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Ephesians 1:13-14 - ¹³ "In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory."

The Hope Ahead

<u>Psalm 27:13-14</u> – ¹³ "I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! ¹⁴ Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!"

<u>2 Corinthians 1:10</u> – "He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. <u>On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again."</u>

<u>Titus 2:13</u> – "Waiting (*prodechomai*) for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ"

<u>2 Peter 3:13</u> – "But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."

Serving & Waiting

<u>Luke 12:35-37</u> – ³⁵ "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶ and <u>be like men who are waiting for their master</u> to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. ³⁷ <u>Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake</u> when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them."

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)