

There's Hope

(1 Corinthians 10:11; Romans 15:4)

- Introduction:
1. Many people live their lives without hope, and in fear of tomorrow.
 2. For many, their past haunts them, and thus their future is uncertain.
 3. Such should not be the case with the child of God.
 4. There's hope! We serve a God who delights in mercy (Micah 7:18).
 5. Let's examine several cases that serve as reminders of the hope we have.

I Old Testament Examples That Give Us Hope

- A. Lot (Genesis 19-20).
 1. He pitched his tent toward Sodom (13:1-13).
 2. Offered his daughters to a mob rapists (19:1-8).
 3. Got drunk and had sex with both of his daughters (19:30-38).
 4. (2 Peter 2:7-8) Lot was a righteous man.
- B. Rahab (Joshua 2).
 1. Rahab was a harlot (2:1).
 2. She lied to the soldiers (2:5; Proverbs 6:16-19).
 3. (Hebrews 11:20-21) List among the "heros o f the faith."
- C. Samson (Judges 13-16).
 1. His marriage was unlawful (14: 1).
 2. Makes a foolish bet, and kills 30 men to met the terms of his bet (14:19).
 3. Visits a prostitute (16:1).
 4. "Shacked up" with Delilah (16:4-20).
 5. (Hebrews 11:32,38) The world was not worthy of men like him.
- D. David (1 & 2 Samuel).
 1. Commits adultery with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11:1-13).
 2. Has her husband murdered (2 Samuel 11:14-25).
 3. Goes back on his word and has Shimei killed (2 Samuel 19:23; 1 Kings 2:8-9).
 4. (1 Samuel 13:14) He was a man after God's own heart.

II Then There Is Your Story

- A. We too are sinners (Romans 3:9-10,23).
- B. I doubt if very many of us would want God to write an exposé of our lives for all to read.
- C. But there is hope!
- D. (Ephesians 1:7).

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, if you are outside of Christ, you are without God and without hope (Ephesians 2:12).
 2. However, if you are a Christian, walking in the light, be assured you are forgiven, and an heir of heaven.
 3. Please don't leave here without having the hope that God so freely offers.

