

Four Christian Necessities

Rom. 12:12-15

Introduction:

A. Necessary characteristics of the Christian are set forth. They are indispensable to the building up of a Christian characteristic.

I. "Rejoicing In Hope"

- A. Define: desire with expectation. Desire minus expectation. Expectation minus desire. Must be both - Rom. 5:4-5; 8:24-25
- B. Hope is in the Lord only - Phil. 4:4; John 6:66-67
 - 1. In his teaching--not men's - Matt. 15
 - 2. In salvation - Eph. 1:7
 - a.--No salvation out of him - Acts 4:11-12;
 - 3. In his promises - 2 Pet. 1:4; 2 Cor. 1:20; 7:1
- C. Rejoice in this hope. Reasons:
 - 1. Our names written in heaven - Luke 10:20
 - 2. Partakers with Christ - 1 Pet. 4:13
 - 3. Essential--firm to the end - Heb. 3:6

II. "Patient In Tribulation"

- A. Possess souls in patience - Luke 21:19
- B. Patient in waiting on God - Psa. 37:1
 - 1. Many get ahead of God. Lord's way sometimes too slow. Israel made golden calf when Moses delayed 40 days.
 - 2. Many golden calves today - Psa. 40:1
- C. Hope is secured in patience - Rom. 15:4
- D. Patience is cultivated - James 1:2-4

III. *“Continuing In Prayer”*

- A. Means to keep on praying - 1 Thess. 5:17; Col. 4:2; Luke 18:1; Eph. 6:18
 - 1. To keep living one must "continue eating". It means every day.

IV. *“Distributing To The Necessities Of The Saints”*

- A. A necessary work of every individual - Gal. 6:10
- B. John said it is the proof of our love for Christ and the brethren - 1 John 3:17
 - 1. Paul holds up the churches of Macedonia as examples of such work motivated by love and an intense desire to have fellowship in the gospel - 2 Cor. 8:1-4
 - 2. Christians have the positive promise of God that he will not forget such work and faith - Heb. 6:10

Conclusion:

- A. We need to obey every commandment of God that we may advance to the fullest service possible.