Christian Character

Barry Johnson

Church of Christ, Brookfield, IL

Christian Character

The Excellence of Hope



Barry G. Johnson, Sr. / www.barrygjohnsonsr.com

Christian Character / Faith; Hope; Love; Character; Evangelism; Christian; Christian Life / Romans 5:3–5

Hope gives believers confidence and reassurance in this present life. It also reassures them of the reality of eternal life, allowing us to face death with confidence.



**Romans 5:3–5 ESV**

3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

# I. Hope reassures believers in this present life

## A. Hope reassures believers in their faith - Hebrews 3:6

*See also Eph 1:18–19; Heb 7:18–22; Heb 10:23*

## B. Hope encourages believers - Psalm 31:2

*See also Is 40:31; Is 49:23*

## C. Hope encourages believers to rejoice - Romans 12:12

*See also Ro 5:1–2*

## D. Hope encourages believers to look for restoration - Psalm 37:9

*See also Je 14:8; Je 31:17; La 3:29–31; Ho 2:15; Zec 9:12*

# II. Hope enables believers to face the future with confidence

## A. Hope assures believers of an eternal dimension to life - 1 Corinthians 15:19

## B. Hope enables believers to face death with confidence - Psalm 16:9-10

*See also Job 19:25–27; Ps 33:18; 1 Co 6:14; 2 Co 4:10–14; Php 1:3–6; Re 1:17–18*

## C. Hope assures believers of their eternal life - Titus 1:1-2

*See also Ac 2:26–27; Ro 8:23–25; Tt 1:1–2; Tt 3:7; 1 Pe 1:3*

## D. Hope enables believers to face the coming wrath with confidence - 1 Thessalonians 1:10

## E. Hope assures believers of their heavenly inheritance - 1 Peter 1:3-5

*See also Eph 1:18*

# God’s Invitation and Plan of Salvation

## Hear - Romans 10:17

## Believe and Confess - Romans 10:9-10

## Repent - Luke 13:3

## Be Baptized - Romans 6:3-4

## Remain Faithful - Revelation 2:10

**New to the Faith**

* Pursue a First Principles class (see our Elders)

**Have you fallen away from Faith?**

* Pursue Being Restored (see our Preachers)

**My Decision Today**

* I would like to be baptized today
* I would like to renew my life to Christ
* I would like to learn more about Jesus and the Bible

**Questions: What are my next steps?**

* Come forward to be baptized
* Request a Bible Study to learn more
* Attend Bible Class to grow and mature
* Find a place to serve others
* Apply today’s lesson to my life