

WALKING WITH JESUS, IN HOPE

Romans 15:7-13

December 2, 2019

Verse 12-13..... the root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in Him the Gentiles shall have hope. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

It is early September and the sun is bright and the days are beautiful. Even so I notice the difference in “four seasons country” and know changes will come soon and fast. Even though I am thinking of the weather, I know changes in our world and changes in our church also happen that same way. Nothing seems to happen slowly anymore. I suppose that is a result of being part of an aging generation, but I know that is not the whole story.

I sometimes wonder if Jesus found His life on this earth in the same way. In the mist of trouble and tribulations, of need, hate and hurt did He struggle with all the worries and cares of a world that seems upside down? Did He want to slow things down until a better way could be found? Then I remember that He is the better way. The one from the root of Jesse who brings hope into our world and into our church.

I am a cancer survivor and for many years Hope has been what I hold on to. I remember hoping the next chemo treatment would not make me quite so sick and I hoped to be able to get through one more week of radiation without falling on my face. I held on tight to the HOPE that all would be well and knew God had a plan for my life. There was hope in knowing that I was never alone in my battle.

I look to that same hope for my life today. Hope that God will allow me to be who He wants me to be. Hope that His plan and purpose for my life will be my main goal. Hope that all of us will walk that road of life with Jesus as our ever-present guide and keeper.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the hope we find in knowing you and knowing that you hold all things in your hands. May we live so others may see you and that hope that you bring, in us. Amen

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