

WARUMI 5:1-8

Hatimaye, sisi ni watu wa matumaini. Matumaini ni neno la neno la eschatological. Ni matumaini ambayo hujitabidi katika mvutano wa tayari / bado. Tumaini hili linatokana na mateso, kama kumbukumbu kwamba maisha ya baki sio mkatewalk. Mateso ni tishio halisi kwa wasomaji hawa wa Kirumi. Lakini, matumaini haitakuwa tamaa kwa sababu, wakati matumaini ya marejesho ya mwisho ya utukufu wa Bustani-haijatambulika, tunaishi kwa ufahamu kamili wa upendo wa Mungu. Madhara ni yanayoonekana na makubwa. Tumaini hili linapaswa rangi kwa njia tunayoiona dunia. Inapaswa kutukumbusha usiogope, kwa sababu mateso ya ulimwengu huu sio punctuation ya mwisho ya hadithi yetu. Ukombozi kamili wa Mungu, ujao ni neno la mwisho (Timothy Brooks, 2017).

Tunapokubaliana na Mungu ambaye ni Baba yetu, tunatambua Yeye hataki tu kufurahia ubusiano huu kwa moja, bali kututumikia katika huduma Yake katika kufanya kazi kwa ufalme Wake. Hiyo italeti kila aina ya shinikizo na matatizo ambayo itatutakasa kwenye imani na matumaini, bata wakati hatujui uwepo Wake au kujisikia kama kuna kitu kinachoendelea. Hatupaswi kufikiria hisia yetu ya kuwa karibu na Mungu ni index halisi ya ukweli. Paulo anatuita ili tuelewe ukweli, mwamba ulio chini chini ya mchanga unaogeuka wa hisia (NT Wright, 2004).

Injili lazima iwe habari njema kwa kila mtu au si habari njema kabisa. Ikiwa Injili haihifadhi kila mtu, haihifadhi mtu yeyote.

Wiki ijayo: Ishara Uko katika Uhusiano - Na Yesu

ROMANS 5:1-8

Finally, we are a people of hope. Hope is an eschatological word. It's a hope that struggles in the tension of already/not yet. This hope is forged in suffering, as a recollection that the justified life is not a cakewalk. Persecution is a real threat to these Roman readers. But, hope is never a disappointment because, while the hope of final glory—full restoration of the Garden—is not realized, we do live in full realization of the love of God. It's effects are tangible and overwhelming. This hope should color the way we see the world. It should remind us to not be afraid, because the suffering of this world is no longer the final punctuation of our story. God's full, coming redemption is the final word (Timothy Brooks, 2017).

When we are reconciled to the God Who is our Father, we discover He wants not simply to enjoy this one-to-one relationship, but to enlist us in His service in working for His kingdom. That will bring all kinds of pressures and problems which will require us to hang onto faith and hope, even when we don't sense His presence or feel as though there's anything happening. We mustn't imagine our feeling of being close to God is a true index of reality. Paul is summoning us to understand the reality, the solid rock beneath the shifting sands of feeling (NT Wright, 2004).

The Gospel must be good news for everyone or it isn't good news at all. If the Gospel doesn't save everyone, it doesn't save anyone.

Next week: Signs You're in a Relationship — With Jesus

Septemba 24, 2017

tumaini isiyo ya kawaida

Kwa hiyo, tangu tumekuwa **alifanya haki** (*dikaioo* -haki, huru, huru) kupitia uaminifu wake, tuna **amani** (*eirene* - msamaha wa hasira na uharibifu wa vita, mapumziko, usalama, utulivu) na Mungu kwa njia ya Bwana wetu Yesu Kristo. Tuna **kupatikana** (*echo* - wamiliki, ushikilie mikononi mwako) **upatikanaji** (*prosagoge* - kukubalika na Mungu katika uhusiano wa karibu na Yeye) kwa imani katika neema hii ambayo tunasimama kupitia kwake, na sisi **kujivunia** (*kauchaomai* - furaha, fikiria bonus)ndani ya **tumaini** (*elpis* - matumaini ya ujasiri, imani ya msingi) ya Mungu **utukufu** (*doxa* - idhini, uzuri, utukufu).

Lakini sio tu! Sisi hata kujivunia **matatizo** (*thlipsis* - dhiki, shinikizo, shida, ukandamizaji), kwa sababu tunajua shida inazalisha **uvumilivu** (*hupomone* - kushikilia, kudumu, uaminifu), uvumilivu hutoa **tabia** (*dokime* - kuthibitishwa, kupimwa, na kupatikana kustahili), na tabia hutoa tumaini. Tumaini hili halituweka **aibu** (*kataischuno* - tamaa, aibu), kwa sababu upendo wa Mungu umekuwa **akamwaga** (*ekcheo* - inasambazwa kwa ukarimu, bila sehemu) nje ndani ya mioyo yetu kwa njia ya Roho Mtakatifu, ambaye amekuwa **alipewa** (*didomi* - hutolewa, umewekwa) kwetu.

Wakati tulikuwa bado **dhaifu** (*asthenes* - wasio na msaada, dhaifu, wagonjwa, wasio na furaha), wakati wa kulia, Kristo alikufa kwa ajili ya watu wasiomcha Mungu. Si mara nyingi mtu atakufa kwa ajili ya mtu mwenye haki, ingawa labda mtu anaweza kutamani kufa kwa mtu mzuri. Lakini Mungu **inaonyesha** (*sunistao* - huonyesha, huanzisha, huleta pamoja) Upendo wake kwetu, kwa sababu wakati tulikuwa bado wenye dhambi Kristo alikufa kwa ajili yetu.

September 24, 2017

Peculiar Hope

Therefore, since we have been **made righteous** (*dikaioo* - justified, acquitted, freed) through His faithfulness, we have **peace** (*eirene* - exemption from rage & the havoc of war, rest, safety, tranquility) with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have **obtained** (*echo* - possess, hold in our hands) **access** (*prosagoge* - our acceptance by God into close relationship with Him) by faith into this grace in which we stand through Him, and we **boast** (*kauchaomai* - exult, consider a bonus) in the **hope** (*elpis* - confident expectation, foundational belief) of God's **glory** (*doxa* - approval, brilliance, majesty).

But not only that! We even take pride in our **problems** (*thlipsis* - tribulation, pressure, trouble, oppression), because we know trouble produces **endurance** (*hupomone* - persevering, steadfastness, trustworthiness), endurance produces **character** (*dokime* - proven, tested, and found worthy), and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to **shame** (*kataischuno* - disappoint, disgrace), because the love of God has been **poured** (*ekcheo* - distributed lavishly, without portions) out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, Who has been **given** (*didomi* - supplied, furnished) to us.

While we were still **weak** (*asthenes* - helpless, feeble, sick, unimpressive), at the right moment, Christ died for ungodly people. It isn't often someone will die for a righteous person, though maybe someone might dare to die for a good person. But God **shows** (*sunistao* - demonstrates, establishes, brings together) His love for us, because while we were still sinners Christ died for us.