**Hope in God – Rom. 15:4**

**Focal Truth: I hope in God because of God’s Word**

**I have greater hope in God today than ever before because of God’s word**

**Hope in God confesses the word of God**

**Observations**

1. **I hope in God because God’s written word instructs me 15:4**

*For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction*

1. God’s word is written… progragho = to write down before the eyes
2. God’s word is written in earlier times – **it is written having authority**

Ex. 34:27 – the Lord said to Moses, Write down these words

Deut. 9:10 – the Lord gave me the two tablets of stone written by the finger of God

Jude 1:3 – beloved while I was making every effort to write to you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once handed down to the saints

**The Lord Jesus spoke repeated – “it is written”**

**The apostles in their letters repeated & preached- “it is written”**

Rom. 15:3 – for even Christ did not please himself, **but as it is written**, the reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me

John 20:31 – **these things have been written** so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God and that believing you may have life in His name

1 Pet. 1:16 – I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!

Rev. 1:3 – blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy and heed the things written in it, for the time is near

1. God’s word is written for instruction – for teaching

2 Tim. 3:16 – All scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness

Profitable for teaching

Profitable for reproof – evidence, conviction or proof

Profitable for correction

Profitable for training in righteousness

1. 1 Cor. 10:11 – now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come
2. 2 Tim. 3:15 – from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus
3. **I hope in God because God’s written word teaches me endurance 15:4**

*so that through perseverance…of the Scriptures we might have hope*

1. God’s word is filled with examples of those who hoped in God with endurance

Heb. 12:2 – who for the joy set before him endured the cross

1. James 5:11 – we count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord’s dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.
2. Endurance is strengthened as we read God’s word

Ps. 119: 46 – remember the word – promise to Your servant, in which you have made me to hope

Ps. 119:116 – sustain me according to Your word, that I may live, and do not let me be ashamed of my hope

1. **I hope in God because God’s written word comforts me 15:4**

*and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope*

1. Gospel comforts comes from God’s comforting word

They are inexpressible

They are real

They are powerful

They are satisfying

They are everlasting

God’s word speaks to us in every situation

God’s word guides us in every circumstance

1. God’s word produces personal renewal when we read it

Ps. 119:50 – this is my comfort in my affliction that your word has revived – preserved me

1. God’s word produces assurance when we read it

Ps. 119:28 – my soul weeps because of grief comfort me according to your word

**Things to Remember**

1. The God of hope has given us His words of hope in the scriptures
2. God’s word comforts because it is from the God of all comfort
3. Hope in God confesses God’s word
4. God’s word strengthens our hope in God

**Daily Use**

1. Pick up God’s word and read it!
2. Humbly receive God’s word as you study it
3. Memorize & meditate on God’s word – live by it!