

Sermon Series: Trinity

Sermon Text: Romans 15:12-13 Trinity of Hope

All nations will rejoice together in peace with God because He is the Trinity of hope.

Historical Context: Predominantly Gentile church in Rome receiving Jewish Christians back after being expelled from Rome by Claudius.

Literary Context: Paul has argued for the unification of Jews and Gentiles in one body based on God's promise in the prophets to bring salvation to the nations through the Jewish people in the person of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Weaker/Stronger conflict. Diverse attitudes toward Roman government.

1) God the Father is the source of hope.

- a) "May the God of hope fill you" (v. 13)
- b) His eternal decree (chaps. 9-11)
- c) His patriarchal and prophetic promise (4:13-22; vv. 8-12)
- d) **Application:** Do you have the faith of Abraham?

2) God the Son is the supply of hope.

- a) "in Him will the Gentiles hope" (v. 12b)
- b) "The root of Jesse . . . arises to rule the Gentiles" (v. 12a)
- c) "Christ became a servant" to the Jews for the sake of the nations (vv. 8-9)
- d) **Application:** There is no reconciliation on earth without reconciliation between heaven and earth. Only Christ deals with the sin that keeps us from enjoying peace (v. 13) with God and with one another.

3) God the Spirit is the suffusion of hope.

- a) Suffuse—to spread over or through in the manner of fluid or light (merriam-webster.com)
- b) "by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" (v. 13b)
- c) 'to abound, to be in abundance, to be a lot of, to exist in a large quantity" (Louw and Nida)
- d) "glorify God . . . praise . . . rejoice . . . extol" (vv. 9-11)
- e) **Application:** The mind set on the flesh is death. The mind set on the Spirit is life. This truth covers all areas of life: enjoying peace with God, peace of conscience, peace with your neighbors, and peace between nations. The world's God-less, Christ-less, Spirit-less peace is ephemeral. Joy and peace are enjoyed through faith in the Trinity of hope.

Doxology: Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, from this time forth and forevermore. Amen. (Jude 24-25)