

# **“Prepare Him Room” There is hope!**

## **Isa. 9:2-6; Rom. 5:1-6**

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Dec 4, 2016*

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### **1. Christmas means there is hope for us who could never have peace with God apart from Christ!**

**Isa. 9:2,6**

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone... <sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace**.

**Rom. 5:1,2**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, **we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ**. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

### **2. Christmas means there is hope for us to rejoice in our sufferings, knowing God is at work!**

**Rom. 5:3,4**

<sup>3</sup> Not only that, but **we rejoice in our sufferings**, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and **character produces hope**,

### **3. Christmas means there is hope—*certain hope*—that we will not be put to shame, but have been accepted by God because of Jesus Christ!**

**Rom. 5:5,6**

<sup>5</sup> **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. <sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

“Biblical hope is not a mere desire for something good to happen. It is a confident expectation and desire for something good in the future. Biblical hope has moral certainty in it. When the word says, ‘Hope in God!’ it does not mean, ‘Cross your fingers.’ It means, to use the words of William Carey, ‘Expect great things from God.’”

Piper, John. "What Is Hope?" *Desiring God*, 1986. Web. 02 Dec. 2016.  
<http://www.desiringgod.org/messages/what-is-hope>

**What about you?** There is hope, but do you have hope? How does your understanding of the Gospel—the good news of what Christ has done for us—give you hope today? Do you have hope in your suffering? Why or why not? How does the Gospel give you hope for the future?