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# **Eagerly Waiting**

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**Gal. 5:1-5**



# **We ourselves...**

***“For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.” (Gal 5:5)***

- ***“we ourselves”*** in contrast to those who hope by law (5:4)
- ***“eagerly wait”*** – “welcome”; waiting that decisively **“puts away” all that should remain behind** [HELPS Word-studies]
  - Looking forward to something with unconstrained anticipation
  - We “may very probably suppose” Paul coined this word to emphasize a special degree of expectation for Christians
- **Ask ourselves, “Do we ourselves, eagerly wait for our hope?”**

# What are we to eagerly wait for?

## The Hope of Righteousness (Righteousness' Hope)

- The realization or *“the fulfillment of our righteous hope”* - ISV
- The thing we hope for... [the completion of our salvation] - AMP
- **The hope of those made righteous by the gospel (Rom 1:17)**
  - The hope of justification (5:4); of being found right, not guilty of sin
- **Paul's hope expressed to the Philippians (Phil 3:8-11)**
- **The hope that sustained Paul in his darkest days (2 Tim 4:8)**
  - *“Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also **to all who have loved his appearing.**”*

# How can we eagerly wait for it?

## Through the Spirit

- **God helps us abound in hope through His Spirit (Rom 15:13)**
  - *“for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.” (Phil 2:13)*
- **The Spirit reveals both the hope and the means to attain it**
  - Through the blood of Christ (Eph 2:12-13)
- **His Spirit provides the means to maintain it**
  - Arm yourself with the sword of the Spirit, His word (Eph 6:17)
  - Pray to God for inner strength through His Spirit (Eph 3:14-16)

# How can we eagerly wait for it?

## By Faith

- **Faith in Christ and His sacrifice**

- The blood of Christ frees us from even the guilt of sin (**Eph 1:4**)
- The blood of Christ remains available for Christians (**1 John 1:7-9**)

- **Faith in His coming**

- Just as certain as His death and resurrection (**1 Thess 4:14, 18**)
- He came to take care of sin; He's coming back to save (**Heb 9:28**)
  - *“so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are **eagerly waiting** for him.”*

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