

# *Grace Prayers* Part 2

*Romans 15:13 (Topical Message)*



## ***What is the definition of Prayer?***

***Prayer (Websters Definition)*** - A solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God or an object of worship.

Websters narrows prayer down to (1) requesting help, or (2) expressing thanks to God (Obviously if you are a Christian you have no other object of Worship).

Prayer is so much more than (1) requesting help, or (2) expressing thanks. Prayer is also worship, praise, and listening to God. God communicates back to your spirit (Listening Pray) for example.

***Prayer is simply communicating with God*** – It's not only a one-way communication, but a two-way communication (Back and Forth). God hears our prayers, and answers our prayers. There are only 3 answers to our prayers (Yes, No, Wait).

The Apostle Paul records **43** prayers in his epistles. They can be categorized into 3 types:

**1. Prayers of Praise & Worship**

**2. Prayers for Other Believers**

**3. Prayer for Himself**

Paul is a great example for us to follow in his prayer life.

This week I want to look at another pray penned by Paul. This prayer is in the book of Romans Chapter 15, verse 13. In this prayer, Paul is praying for the Roman's Believer in 3 specific requests.

Specifically, Paul's prayer to God is that the Roman believers be filled with:

**1. Joy**

**2. Peace**

**3. God's Overflowing Hope**

## **Romans 15:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Background:

### Romans 1:1 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called *as* an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

### Romans 1:7 (NASB)

<sup>7</sup> to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called *as* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**We** see in Chapter 1:1, Paul wrote the letter. **We** see in verse 7 of chapter 1, that the recipient of the letter the beloved of God in Rome, called Saints.

The letter was addressed to believers [**Believers are described as Saints by Paul**]. These believers were made up of both Greeks & Jews.

## ***The purpose of the letter is a Complete & Detailed Explanation of the Gospel:***

- a. Justified [Righteous] by Faith (not works)
- b. Believers have been Crucified & Risen with Christ
- c. The Power of Sin is broken in the life of a Believer
- d. Believers are no longer under Law, but under Grace
- e. Believers are united to Christ as their source of life – bear His Fruit
- f. God's Plan for Israel (Chapters 9-11)

There is much more to say here, but these are the highlights. The theme verse for the book is:

### **Romans 1:16-17 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

All believers [Saints] shall live by faith (not law, work, flesh, or self-effort). Salvation starts with faith, and living the Christian life is by the same faith.

## 1. Joy

### Romans 15:13 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope **fill you with all joy** and peace **as you trust in him**, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Paul starts his prayer aimed towards the **“God of Hope”** Let stop right here and settle one thing in our minds. There is only one source of hope and that is God.

**Brothers & Sisters** – Where are you placing your hope?

Paul knew there was no hope in any other thing than in God. He calls God – God of Hope. So, Paul prays to God as being the only source of Hope. There is no Hope in any other thing than God! Amen!

Paul prays that the “God of Hope” **fills the Roman believers with JOY** – the root of this word in Greek means to make full, or to make complete. Paul is asking for the Romans believers to be filled with Joy and to experience Joy. The source of this Joy is God.

***God of Hope = Source of Joy***

***Joy (Websters Definition)*** - the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires.

From Paul's prayer, what **initiates** our God of Hope filling the Roman believers (All Believers) with JOY?

***Trusting in Him (Him – God, Jesus Christ) initiates being filled with God's Joy***

Trust also means dependance upon, and having faith in:

***Mystery*** – I can't give you a formula explaining how God works in conjunction with the Holy Spirit in one's life for you to be filled with Joy by (Trust, Dependance, Faith) in Him. I just know that the God of Hope fills us with Joy by trust (dependance) and not in any other way.

Paul prays for the Roman believers to be filled with Joy as they trust (Depend) on the God of Hope.

***Have you experienced being filled with God's Joy in your life?***



## 2. Peace

### **Romans 15:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope **fill you with** all joy and **peace as you trust in him**, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Peace (Websters Definition)* – a state of tranquility or quiet.

### ***God of Hope = Source of Peace***

As a believer in Christ, we have peace with God. There is no barrier or separation with Him. Paul isn't praying for this type of peace,

### **Romans 5:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

The Roman believer already has this peace!

Paul is praying that the Roman believers are filled with peace, and experiencing peace.

Again, our God of Hope is our only source of peace, and He fills his Children with that peace.

***Have You Ever Experienced that Peace of God in your life?***

### 3. God's Overflowing Hope

**Romans 15:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope **fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him**, so that **you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit**.

*Brothers & Sisters* – When you are filled with Joy & Peace by God, you overflow with Hope. God's Hope is in you, and God's Hope flow thru you.

**Overflow (Greek)** – Abound, Have an Abundance, Surplus

Paul's prayer is that God's Joy & Peace fills the Roman believers, so that they will overflow with Hope [by the power of the Holy Spirit].

***Are you overflowing with the Hope of God?***

***When people see you do, they see Joy, Peace & Hope?***

Jesus also talked about overflowing from the inner most being of a person and calls this living water.

**John 7:37b-38 (NASB)**

<sup>37b</sup> "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup> "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'"

What was the flow of living water that Jesus was referring to here?

**John 7:39 (NASB)**

<sup>39</sup> But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Jesus tells us that the Holy Spirit which was to come at Pentecost and indwell all believers. This was prior to that. Jesus was yet to be crucified & resurrected, and ascend into heaven.

- a. Paul prays that the Roman believers – Overflow with Hope by the power of the Holy Spirit
- b. Jesus tells us that every believer – From ones innermost being (Soul – Mind, Will, Emotions) will flow rivers of living water (Holy Spirit).

***Are you flowing with rivers of living water & with hope because the Holy Spirit is inside you?***

A serene sunset scene over a calm body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water's surface. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, some of which are illuminated from below by the setting sun. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of reeds or tall grasses are visible on the right side, adding depth to the composition. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

***Our God of Hope  
Is  
Our Only Source of Joy & Peace***

Rom 15:13

*Woukregno*



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*Joy*

*Peace*

*God's Overflowing Hope*

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