



March 7, 2018

## **HOPE**

*Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all*

Emily Dickinson writes of the tenacity of hope that she has heard singing in even “the chilliest land.” In the New Testament, Paul writes that “faith, hope, and love” remain, and that “hope does not disappoint us.”

That’s not to say that we are never disappointed, disheartened, or in grief. In fact, Paul wrote those words in a time of great uncertainty and fear. As segments of the church were persecuted, he wrote that “we rejoice also in our suffering, for suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts.”

(Romans 5:3-5).

Jesus rose to new life, but it was after he suffered and lost. New life comes after the darkness. As you look at the things in this world that seem hopeless, listen to hope that perches in your soul. It is God’s love poured into your heart. That hope is your prayer, and your prayer will lead you into each new day, to give yourself to what needs to be done.

Peace,

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