

Is There Hope For Me? Romans 7:18-20

Two Steps Forward, Three Steps Back

Each engaged daily in battle against evil

Constant battle leaves scars & wounds on soul; All felt grief, shame & guilt that sin brings

Yet slip & fall, wonder if any chance for one like me to go heaven - **Romans 7:19**

Feel the Lord could never be satisfied with a person such as I

Seems get stronger in battle against sin, then fall back & struggle

Apparent strength of others gives us pause for our own hope

Smiling, a leader, teacher, answers in Bible Class; have strong children

Forget all struggle with sin - **Romans 3:23; 1John 1:8-10**

Then we have the example of those in the Scriptures

Paul withstood stoning, persecution, trial, shipwreck - **2Corinthians 11:23-28; 1Corinthians 9:27**

Peter withstood many trials, tradition says crucified upside down

Peter had experience with devil's desire to devour him - **1Peter 5:6-9**

There Is Hope For Me!

Jesus Died For Me!

If He can forgive people in **Matthew 26**, then he can forgive me!

They were forgiven, Jesus knew they didn't fully understand. - **John 21:15**

I can't be careless - **Romans 12:1-2**

Jesus Knows I Struggle!

Jesus was tempted, thus understands temptation - **Hebrews 2:14-18**

Jesus understands the weakness of the human flesh! - **Matthew 26:41**

I still must come to Him and do right - **Hebrews 7:24-25**

God Is Patient!

2Peter 3:9,15

Think how the Lord was patient with the apostles?

Hard time understanding the concept & scope of His kingdom.

Often discussed about who would be best in kingdom - **Matthew 18:1-3**

Gave chances to do what is right! Wanted to apply knowledge of His teaching to their lives!

The Lord will be patient with us. Gives us ample opportunity to do what is right! - **2Peter 3:14**

Never excuses weakness/misunderstanding but encourages to do better

Those who willingly sin will pay!

Savior Gave Up Much For Me! - **Philippians 2:7-8**

Without Christ, we have nothing - **John 14:6; 15:5**

Gospel is good news that we have a chance of going home to Heaven.

Readily available to all who obey & commit to do right! - **Hebrews 7:25**

A Reward Reserved in Heaven For You! - **1Peter 1:3-9**

Kind & compassionate treatment; clemency; a disposition to be tender & forgiving.

Providing hope of never failing salvation, through resurrection of Christ

Awareness of reward should motivate us to do what is right! - **Philippians 3:20-21**

Jesus Wants To Save Me!

Merciful, loving, Savior desires each & everyone go home to heaven. Should give us great hope!

But this mercy does not negate responsibility to do what is right!

We are totally dependent upon the love & mercy of Christ!

Even so, I must do what is written in the Scriptures to partake of His abundant mercy.

We can be confident of Heaven if we continue to do what is right!