

Faith

Thus ~~faith~~ faith ~~and~~ and hope are very closely related. Faith relates to present existences present situations, present attitudes. Hope is the attitude regarding the fut. of absolute confidence in the Lord who controls the future who holds all these things in His hands. And so you see how appropriate it is that Paul says, To put on the breastplate of faith and love. The breastplate which protects us in present situations. But for a helmet the hope of salvation. for that which protects our heads for that which protects our minds for ~~that~~ that which helps to keep us calm in the midst of difficulties. For that which enables us to look forward toward the future without any fear of what may come to us -- the helmet of salvation. The Christian has no ~~right~~ ~~to~~ right to worry. It is natural to worry. Human beings all worry. The Christian does worry, but the true Christian should not worry because He ~~knows~~ knows that God holds the future in His hands. He knows that nothing can happen except what is in line with the will of God. He knows that there are many thing which he should remedy. If there is something he should do he should do it. And there are many things he cannot remedy and these things are in the hands of God. So he should put on the helmet of hope of salvation. This is that which should ~~strengthen~~ strengthen should guard his mind and his thoughts.

And then we find some very interesting references to hope in 1 Pet. In 1 Pet. we have the faith and the hope and the love all kept together all stressed in the first chapter. But when you come to the third chapter you find the references. That -- Excuse me ~~and~~ I said 1 Pet. Everything I said thus far is true of 1 Peter. but then I wanted to refer to 1 John. We're referred to Paul and to Peter which has very important references to hope but in 1 John 3 we find there the faith and hope and love brought together and its interesting to see what we have about hope.

First John 3 -- "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of Godnot yet appear what we shall be." We don't know exactly how God is going to work in our lives. We don't know how He is going to develop us. We don't know how He is going to change and transform us. We don't know what experiences He may put us through in order to mould us and make us into what He wants us to be. We do not know all these things but we know that they are in His