

## My Hope Is Built; Matthew 4:16

- I. Building Hope
  - a. "Knowledge is Power"
    - i. Sir Francis Bacon was an English statesman who wrote a book titled, "Meditationes Sacrae" or "Sacred Meditations" in 1597
    - ii. This book is where we get the quote, "knowledge is power"
    - iii. However, it has been misquoted
    - iv. Sir Bacon's actual quote is, "for knowledge itself is a power whereby he knoweth" as a parenthetical expression speaking of God's omnipotence
    - v. The 'he' Sir Bacon is referring to is God
    - vi. What is interesting is that most authors and speakers today use this phrase to mean human knowledge is power
    - vii. Sir Bacon is referring to the all-knowing and all-powerful God
  - b. We can certainly say that knowing God through the Gospel is power!
  - c. Romans 1:16 (ESV) 16 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.
  
- II. Jesus Blood
  - a. "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness"
  - b. The more we know about Jesus, the more our faith increases, and we build our hope
  - c. Jesus shed His blood for our forgiveness
    - i. Hebrews 9:22 (ESV) <sup>22</sup> Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.
    - ii. Blood must be shed to forgive sins, but not just anyone's (or anything's) blood
    - iii. Hebrews 10:3–4 (ESV) <sup>3</sup> But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
    - iv. Since the Law of Moses could not justify humanity, a different sacrifice was required – a sinless sacrifice, a divine (yet human) sacrifice
    - v. Hebrews 10:12–14 (ESV) <sup>12</sup> But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. <sup>14</sup> For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.
    - vi. Since we are covered by Jesus' blood, we can enter the very presence of God – Yes, God dwells in us, bodily!
    - vii. Hebrews 10:19–22 (ESV) <sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,

<sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

- d. We have confidence in the resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Christ
  - i. It is Jesus' death that proves His humanity
  - ii. It is the empty tomb that proves Jesus' divinity
  - iii. John 10:17–18 (ESV) <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”
  - iv. It is our trust, our faith in the power of God through the death (shed blood) and resurrection of Jesus that shows us salvation
- e. “I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name”
- f. Philippians 2:9–11 (ESV) <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### III. High and Stormy Gale

- a. “In ever high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil”
- b. Anchors
  - i. a device usually of metal attached to a ship or boat by a cable and cast overboard to hold it in a particular place by means of a fluke that digs into the bottom <sup>1</sup>
  - ii. The ocean is a powerful part of God's creation
  - iii. I was born and raised in Miami, Florida and lived on the coast of California for quite a few years
  - iv. I would often play in the surf
  - v. If I misjudged a wave, it would tumble me over and over; sometimes I would not know which way is up (and that is just the beach)
  - vi. Imagine being out on the ocean in a sailing yacht (GIF HERE)
  - vii. Or being anchored during one of these storms
  - viii. You have to have a good anchor for your boat, and it has to be set right, or else it will drag
  - ix. Hebrews 6:19–20 (ESV) <sup>19</sup> We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, <sup>20</sup> where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.
- c. It does not matter what ‘high and stormy gale’ we are in the middle of, if we are anchored in Christ, then all is secure
- d. “When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace”

---

<sup>1</sup> Inc Merriam-Webster, [Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary](#). (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2003).

IV. My Hope is Built

- a. "On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand"
- b. "All other ground is sinking sand"
- c. Build your house on the rock
  - i. Put your faith in Jesus, the solid rock; trust Him
  - ii. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18)
- d. Even amid the 'stormy gales' He will hold you fast if you are anchored to Him
- e. The knowledge of God and His power will save you
- f. "For knowledge itself is a power whereby he **[God]** knoweth" Sir Francis Bacon