

## Marks of a Christian – Part 3

### Romans 12:12

#### a. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

- a. Rejoice (χαίροντες *chairontes*) pres act ptcp – to rejoice, be glad, be joyful, be full of joy. It is a continuing action.
  - i. Even in the midst of disappointment, rejoice. Recall the words of Romans 8:31-39, concluding that nothing (external) can separate us from the love of God - “nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- b. hope (ἐλπίδι *elpidi*) – expectation. It is not wishful thinking. It is expectation based on the promises of God who never fails to keep His promises.
  - i. Hope is very much related to rejoicing, even the source of rejoicing in any circumstance.
  - ii. Hebrews 6:18-20 - **18** so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. **19** We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, **20** where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.
- c. patient (ὑπομένοντες *hypomenontes*) – literally “remain under”. Recognize “hypo” in the prefix. Don’t give up or flee when hardship comes.
- d. constant (προσκαρτεροῦντες *proskarterountes*) - to persist in adherence to, a thing; to be intently engaged in, attend constantly to.
  - i. Philippeans 4:6 - do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
  - ii. 1 Thess. 5:16-17 - **16** Rejoice always, **17** pray without ceasing,