

## Are You Abounding?

(Romans 15:13-20)

The verb “abound” means “to exceed, to be over and above a fixed number or measure, to be more, to abound, to overflow.”

**The believer is to be abounding inwardly in the heart:** Abounding in

hope (Rom. 15:13)—“That ye may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.” Abounding in comfort (2 Cor. 1:5)—“So our consolation (comfort) also **aboundeth** by Christ.” Abounding in grace (2 Cor. 9:8)—“God is able to make all grace **abound** toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things...” Abounding in joy (Phil. 1:26)—“That your rejoicing may be more **abundant** (abounding) in Jesus Christ.”

**The believer is to be abounding outwardly in the world:** Abounding in God’s work (1 Cor. 15:58)—“Be ye steadfast, unmovable, **always abounding** in the work of the Lord.” Abounding in every good work (2 Cor. 9:8)—“that ye may **abound** to every good work.” Abounding in love towards others (Phil. 1:9; 1 Thess. 3:12; 4:9-10)—“that your love may **abound** yet more and more.” Abounding in a walk that pleases the Lord (1 Thess. 4:1)—“so ye would **abound** more and more.”

What does it mean to be **abounding in hope** (Rom. 15:13)? The believer is to be abounding in the **certain expectancy** that all things work together for good and for the ultimate purpose of conforming us to the image of Christ (Rom. 8:28-29). The believer is to be abounding in the **certain expectancy** that when Christ shall appear we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is (1 John 3:2-3). How amazing that we can be abounding and overflowing in hope, even though we were once described as “having no hope and without God” (Eph. 2:12)! That was our former condition when we were unsaved, but now **Jesus Christ is our hope** (Tit. 1:1)!



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