



International Bible Lesson  
Uniform Sunday School Lessons Series  
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

## Hoping for Righteousness

February 19, 2017

Galatians 5:1-17

*“For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope” (Galatians 5:5).*

When believers place their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, Jesus fills them with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit enables believers to walk in the Spirit and avoid gratifying “the desires of the flesh” or doing whatever they want right or wrong (Galatians 5:16). The Holy Spirit inspires believers to eagerly seek to live in righteousness in this world, where they face each day various temptations to turn from doing the will of God. The Holy Spirit enables believers to live righteously in this world, but when believers stop doing what is right before God that is not the fault of the Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit, believers trust in Jesus and prayerfully hope to more consistently display the love, truth, and grace of Jesus Christ by what they say and do. However, even with the Holy Spirit within them, believers are not yet perfect in all they think and do all the time; therefore, they eagerly await by faith the righteousness Jesus Christ will bestow upon them when they see Him face to face. Because they trust in Jesus and His death on the cross in their place, when they see Jesus, He will declare them righteous and right with God. Today, believers trust in Jesus and look forward to eternity when they will live perfectly as the Holy Spirit continues to lead them; and where no falsehoods will mislead them or temptations will influence them to disobey God. Today, by faith, believers hope for opportunities to keep loving and serving others day-by-day. Today, by faith, they look with hope to an eternity where everyone loves God and one another.

## Thinking Further

1. What are some of the freedoms that Christians can enjoy?
2. What did circumcision mean if you were Gentile?
3. Are there any laws that Christians should continue to obey?
4. How do we have a reasonable hope of righteousness?
5. In what way does Paul warn us about the misuse of our freedoms?

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