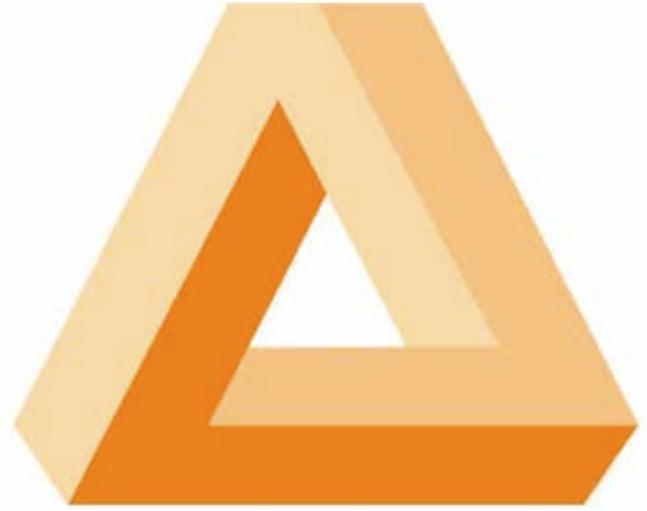


*“Rejoicing In Hope; Patient In Tribulation; Continuing Instant In Prayer;” Romans 12:12 KJV*

A triangle or tripod is one of the strongest geometrical shapes there is. It is a rigid shape that resists force from any direction. You will see it in bridges, skyscrapers, and even in Scripture: *“For there are THREE that bear record in Heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these THREE are one. And now abideth Faith, Hope, Charity, these THREE.”* Also in our text we find a trinity of strength in Hope, Patience, and Prayer that is a structural foundation for our Faith. We cannot hope in that which we do not believe, but if we believe, we can rejoice in that Hope! *“Which Hope we have as an ANCHOR of the soul, both sure and stedfast For we are saved by Hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.”* This brings us to Patience in trials. I can be calm in chaotic circumstances if I *“know in Whom I have believed,”* and if I am persuaded by Hope that *“He is able to deliver”* even from the very jaws of death! If I do not fear death, what can man or circumstance threaten? I have but to pray to my God and I will find Him always true to His Word! To pray is perhaps one of the strongest supports of Faith there is. *“Pray without ceasing. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. Ye have not, because ye ask not. And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, He heareth us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.”* Our knowledge and Hope come from believing and acting on that Hope through faithful obedience to God’s Word. It’s easy to believe in the sunshine, but the tempest is another story! Remember the Parable of the Sower? *“The seed is the word of God. But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the Word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the Word, by and by he is offended. He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the Word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the Word, and he becometh unfruitful.”* These three, joined together, strengthen and sustain our faith in Christ.



Rejoicing patiently in prayer,  
Will ease life’s burdens and its care,  
For if we Hope in God above,  
We are delivered by His Love. –CGP

Our deeds are the fruit of our heart. *“As he thinketh in his heart, so is he. But the Fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance: against such there is no law.”* We can bear no *“Fruit”* without God’s Powerful Spirit of Truth sustaining our very soul *“in Hope of Eternal Life. For we walk by faith, not by sight.”* Are you discouraged? Let the absolute Truth sustain your soul. Trusting Faith is, after all, your choice!

*“If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself.” 2 Timothy 2:13 KJV*