

# Encourager

Monday, February 26, 2024 • 6:00 p.m.

## Living Hope: Anchored in Christ

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3*

I recall a time when our Bible Study teacher, Bro. Duane, asked us who was Jesus to us. At the time I paused to give it some thought...wanting to give an answer that was pleasing. I can't recall my answer. However, I do recall that I wasn't pleased with it or myself. I wanted an answer I could live with and be honest with myself and others.

After some time of pondering and reading of scripture...and daily devotionals, I received an answer in my spirit from 1 Peter 1:3..."JESUS IS MY LIVING HOPE". As a reminder, I keep this posted on the mirror in my bathroom.

Another scripture that I keep posted is Romans 12:12 – Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

**Below is a long list of scriptures related to HOPE. See which of these resonates with you. Let the Holy Spirit guide you and allow the power of hope to resonate within your hearts.**

[Romans 15:4](#),

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

[Romans 15:13](#),

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

[Isaiah 40:31](#),

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

[Romans 8:24-25](#),

"For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."

[Romans 5:2-5,](#)

"Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

[Colossians 1:27,](#)

"To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

[2 Corinthians 4:16-18,](#)

"So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

[Jeremiah 17:7,](#)

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord."

[Deuteronomy 31:6,](#)

"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

[Psalms 31:24,](#)

"Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!"

[Psalms 39:7,](#)

"And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you."

[Psalms 71:5,](#)

"For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth."

[Psalms 71:14,](#)

"But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more."

[Psalms 119:114,](#)

"You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word."

## Bible Verses about Trusting in God with Hope

### [Psalm 56:3-4,](#)

"When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

### [Proverbs 3:5-6,](#)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

### [Hebrews 11:6,](#)

"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

### [Psalm 28:7,](#)

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."

### [Psalm 9:10,](#)

"And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you."

### [Psalm 46:10,](#)

"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth!"

### [Psalm 32:10,](#)

"Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord."

### [Proverbs 3:5,](#)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."

### [Psalm 112:7,](#)

"He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord."

### [Jeremiah 17:7-8,](#)

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

[Romans 8:28](#),

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

[Joshua 1:9](#),

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

### 1. Hope is a Gift from God:

- **Romans 15:13:** "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."
- **Jeremiah 29:11:** "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**Reflection:** How does knowing God has a plan for you fill you with hope? Share how God has manifested hope in your life through specific challenges or victories.

### 2. Hope is Rooted in Resilience:

- **Psalms 46:1:** "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."
- **Joshua 1:9:** "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
- **Hebrews 13:1:** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

**Reflection:** How has your faith helped you persevere through difficulty?

### 3. Hope Empowers Us:

- **Micah 6:8:** "He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

**Reflection:** How does your hope translate into action? How do you use your voice and talents to advocate for others? Share examples of Christian women who inspire you with their hope-filled actions.

**Conclusion:**

Remember, hope is not mere wishful thinking. It's a vibrant force that propels us forward, rooted in God's love and fueled by our resilience. Let us carry this hope within us, sharing it with others and leaving a legacy of faith, strength, and positive change.

Pray that we can be beacons of hope, reminding ourselves and others that even during trials and tribulations, Christ is our LIVING HOPE.