

# Living in Hope

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Scripture: 1 Pet 1:13

*Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. 1 Peter 1:13 (NIV)*

## **1. THE POWER OF CHRISTIAN HOPE:**

*set your hope fully...*

Worldly Hope: Strong desire + Uncertainty

Hope: Full assurance or strong confidence that God is going to do good to us in the future.

## **1 Pet 1:3. A living hope**

- Not a dead hope. i.e. barren, fruitless or unproductive
- But a fertile, fruitful and a productive hope.
- Living hope is the hope that has power to produce changes in life.
- Peter's command: set your hopes.
- Hopefully or fix your hope completely.
- Experience Hope. Hope in God and also for the blessed hope. Tit 2:13
- *His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse,  
nor his delight in the legs of a man;  
<sup>11</sup> the LORD delights in those who fear him,  
who put their hope in his unfailing love. Psalms 147:10-11 (NIV)*
- God delights not in the things that you do with your strength but the things you perform with His strength.
- Hope fully : not 50% doubting and 50% hoping
- Col 1:27

- *To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Col 1:27 (NIV)*

## 2. HOW HOPE ARISES IN OUR LIVES?

*...on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.*

What do we receive through Grace?

- New birth. 1 Peter 1:3
- *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)*
- Caring Jesus: 1 pet 5:7
- *Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV)*
- Jesus the hero.
  - o Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.  
1 John 3:3 (NIV)
- Holy Scriptures : Rom 15:4
  - o *Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. They give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God s promises.*  
Romans 15:4 (NLT)

## 3. HOW TO STIR UP OUR HOPES?

*Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled;*

- Two ways:

### **A. GIRD UP THE LOINS OF YOUR MIND.**

- Turn the robes of your mind into running shorts.
- *Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain came on and Ahab rode off to Jezreel. <sup>46</sup> The power of the LORD*

*came upon Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt, he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel. 1 Kings 18:45-46 (NIV)*

- Pull your robes up between your legs and tuck them into your belt. It means doing things that increase hope in your life.
- Maintain the oil level in your lamp.
- Remove the sprouts to enhance the fruitfulness (pruning)
- 1:14; Once you lived in ignorance. In other words increase truth in your life to live in freedom.
- *Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, Eph 6:14 (NIV)*
- Paul also says the same thing.
- Engage your mind with truth so that hope remains burning in our lives.

**B. BE SELF CONTROLLED:**

- Keep Sober in Spirit
- Don't allow things that numb Hope in your life.
- Eph 5:8-20
- Alcohol distorts reality by making the mind insensitive to what is true, real and valuable
- John Piper's concern in maximizing hope in the grace of God in His heart. So chooses mountains
- Passion for the world diminishes the hope of glory, Jesus in our lives.
- Money, job, power, entertainment, if not self controlled will control our love for Jesus.
- Self control is all about knowing what numbs our mind to God and avoid it.
- Stay awake so that you will not fall into temptation.
- In other words, true worship is increasing hope and protecting hope in God in our life.