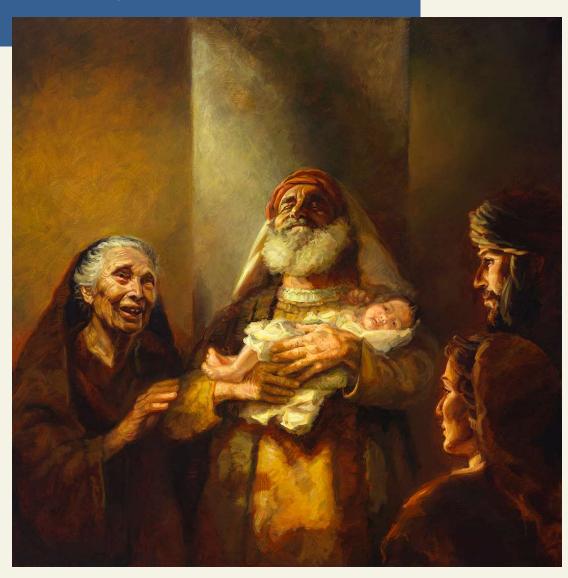


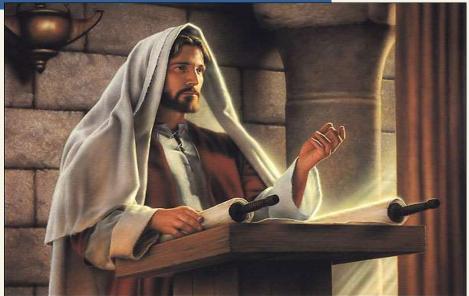
The Advent of a Life of Hope

Simeon looked for Israel's consolation at the advent of the Messiah. Likewise, Anna, the prophetess, upon recognizing who Jesus was, proclaimed him to all those who were anticipating redemption.



The Advent of a Life of Hope

Psalm 33:17 A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save. But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

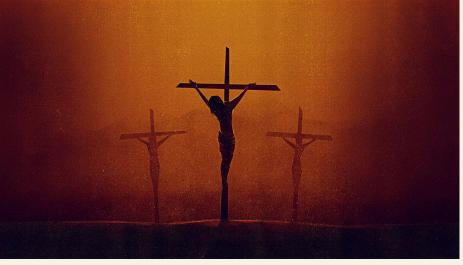




The Advent of a Life of Hope

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness —faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Saviour,

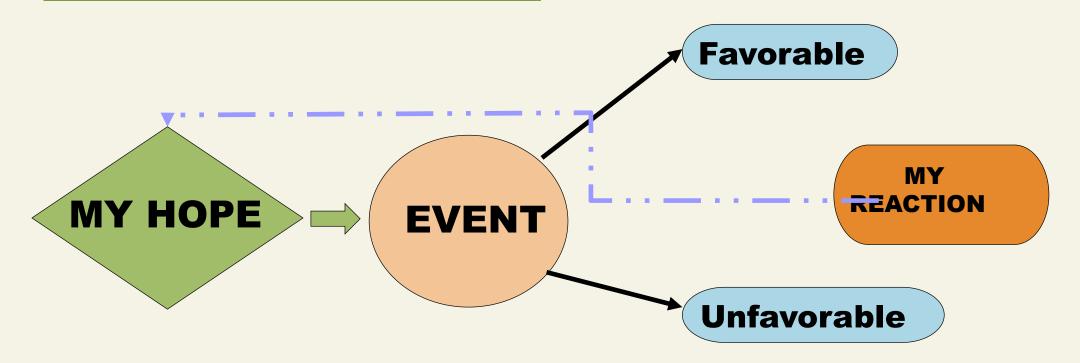




The Dimensions of Hope

- · Merriam-Webster Definition: Hope
 - desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment
 - expectation of fulfillment or success
 - someone or something on which hopes are centered
 - something desired or hoped for

Basics of Hope

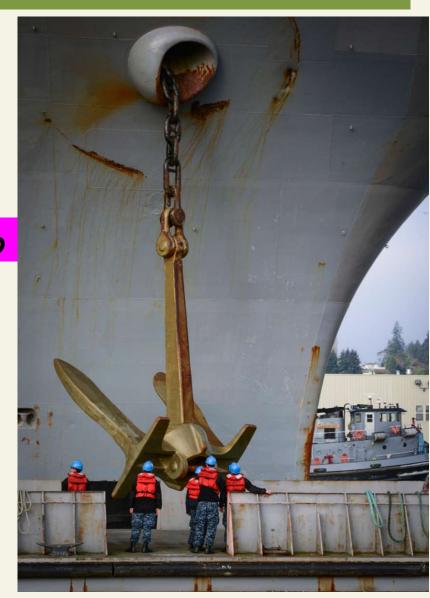


The Biblical Dimensions of Hope

- · OT
 - · Lord, our hope (trust) is in You
 - In times of trouble, we find our hope (trust) in Your strength and deliverance
 - We are to hope in God alone (steadfast love, ordinances, word, teaching and salvation)

The Biblical Dimensions of Hope

- ·NT
 - Hope is an anchor to the soul
 - Heb 6:18 God (promised with oath), by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.
 - 19 We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain,
 - 20 where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest for ever, in the order of Melchizedek.



The Biblical Dimensions of Hope

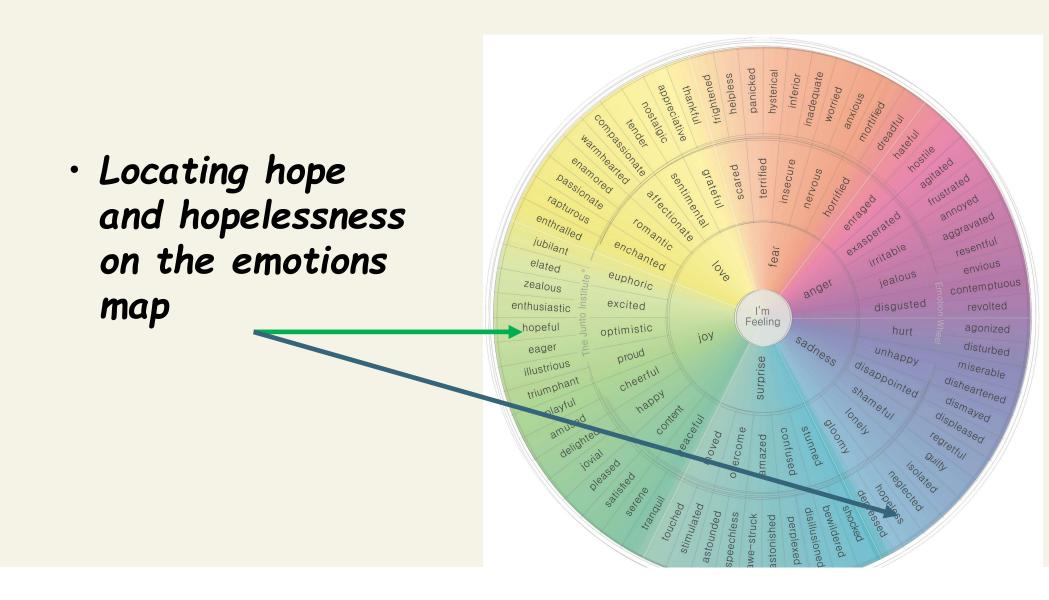
·NT

- · God in Christ is our hope
- Hope is an expectation for something/someone God has promised (kingdom of David to come, Messiah/Saviour)
- Hope does not disappoint His own: His love and Spirit within
- · The blessed appearing of Jesus return, eternal life
- Hope is an anchor to the soul in the midst of trials and suffering while we trust in what God has ahead

The Dimensions of Hope

- · Hope's emotional profiles
 - · From hopeless to hopeful
 - From reaction to intention
 - From natural to supernatural
 - · From self only to inclusion of others

The Dimensions of Hope



Hopelessness Root Causes Health, physical & mental Relationship **Economic** Spiritual & moral

Emotional SocioPolitical

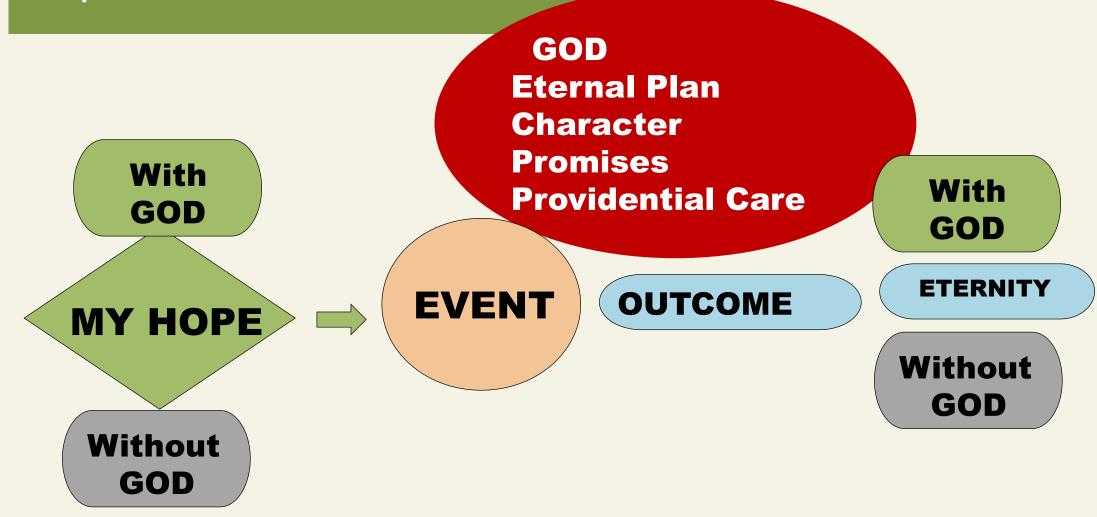


The Dimensions of Hopelessness

From hopeless to hopeful

	Important Areas of Hopeful Needs					
Structure of Hopelessness	Attachment	Mastery	Survival			
Alienation						
Forsakenness						
Inspirationless						
Powerless						
Oppression						
Limitedness						
Doom						
Captivity						
Helplessness						

Hope: From Reactive to Intentional



Without Christian Hope

Hopeless: Without God

Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, <u>everything</u> was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.

...remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

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." King Solomon Ecc 2:11

Apostle Paul Eph 2:12

From hopeless to hopeful: God's Eternal Plan
...a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of
eternal life, which God, who does not lie,
promised before the beginning of time, the
knowledge of the truth that leads to
godliness — and at his appointed season he...
....while we wait for the blessed hope — the
glorious appearing of our great God and
Saviour, Jesus Christ,...

...so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Titus 1:2

Titus 2:13

Titus 3:17

From hopeless to hopeful: <u>God's Character</u>
... "The Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their <u>hope in his unfailing love."</u>

For God so <u>loved</u> the world that He gave His only Son

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Psalm 147:11

John 3:16

Romans 15:13

From hopeless to hopeful: God's Promises

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and for ever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Isaiah 9:6

From hopeless to hopeful: God's Promises

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."...He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace.

Micah 5:2

From hopeless to hopeful: <u>God's Providential</u> <u>Care</u>

... and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow....

Matt 6:25-34

From hopeless to hopeful: <u>God's Providential</u> <u>Care</u>

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

From Natural to Supernatural

		Important Areas of Hopeful Needs		
Structure of Hopelessness	Hope that God brings	Attachment	Mastery	Survival
Alienation	Adoption	Beloved		
Forsakenness	Forgiven	In Christ		Eternal
Inspirationless	Indwelling Holy Spirit	Fruitfulness	Called, gifted	
Powerless	God's Power		Resurrection	
Oppression	Empowered	Shepherded	His followers	
Limitedness	Unlimited		IAM	Ask Me
Doom	Eternity			All things for good
Captivity	Freedom	In the Spirit		Rescuer
Helplessness	Helped by God		I came to you	Advocate





From Only Self to Others Inclusion

..God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

Heb 6:18

From Only Self to Others Inclusion

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith..., Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Heb 10:19

The Advent of a Life of Hope for all via Jesus Coming

· Christian Hope is a gift of God for now and for

eternity and incomparably certain

- · This gift is secure resting on
 - · His promises
 - · His character
 - His providential care and love
 - · His truth in us that rests on His Word
 - · His power in us via His Spirit
 - He is our salvation, security, and source for all that is good
- · Let us encourage one another in His Hope