



Hope is Born

LUKE 2:11

IN THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Col. 1:3-8

Col. 1:3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,
4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love *which ye have* to all the saints,
5 For **the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;**
6 Which is come unto you, as *it is* in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as *it doth* also in you, since the day ye heard *of it*, and knew the grace of God in truth:
7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;
8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

HOPE IS BORN IN THE PROMISE OF THE MESSIAH

Lu. 2:8-11

HOPE IS BORN WHEN GOD INTERVENES

Ezek. 37:1-14

The “Valley of Dry Bones”

Ezek. 37:11 Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: **behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost:** we are cut off for our parts.

What does it mean, “to hope” or say that we have hope?

hope

noun

1. The feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best:
2. A particular instance of this feeling:
3. Grounds for this feeling in a particular instance:
4. A person or thing in which expectations are centered:
5. Something that is hoped for:

verb (used with object), **hoped, hoping.**

6. To look forward to with desire and reasonable confidence.
7. To believe, desire, or trust:

verb (used without object), **hoped, hoping.**

8. To feel that something desired may happen:
9. *Archaic.* To place trust; rely (usually followed by *in*).

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/hope?s=t>

The Scriptural meaning and definition of *hope* is "expectation with confidence." Hope is a firm assurance regarding things even when they are unclear and unknown from a natural perspective.

Rom. 8:24 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?
25 But if we hope for that we see not, **then do we with patience wait for it.**

Heb. 11:1 Now **faith is the substance of things hoped for**, the evidence of things not seen.

7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Original Word: ἐλπίς

Transliteration: elpis

Definition: hope, expectation, trust, confidence.

Properly, expectation of what is sure (certain); *hope*.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1680.htm>

HOPE IS BORN IN THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

I. FAITH IS PROPERLY DIRECTED, 1:4a – “...Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus...”

A. Faith must be discerned – “...Since we heard of **your** faith...”

Lu. 8:23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled *with water*, and were in jeopardy.

24 And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.

25 And he said unto them, **Where is your faith?** And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.

B. Faith must be directed – “...in Christ Jesus...”

Acts 24:24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning **the faith in Christ.**

Gal. 3:26 For ye are all the **children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.**

Gal. 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and **the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.**

1 Jn. 5:12 **He that hath the Son hath life;** *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

II. LOVE IS PRESENTLY DISPLAYED, 1:4b – “...the love *which ye have* to all the saints,”

A. The Impact of the Savior – “...the love *which ye have*...”

Gal. 5:6 For **in Jesus Christ** neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but **faith which worketh by love.**

Eph. 5:2 And **walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us**, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour.

B. The Inclusiveness for the Saints – “...to all the saints,”

1 Jn. 3:23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

1 Jn. 5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.



III. HOPE IS PERMANENTLY DETERMINED, 1:5-6

1:5 For **the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;**

6 Which is come unto you, as *it is* in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as *it doth* also in you, since the day ye heard *of it*, and knew the grace of God in truth:

A. The Source of the Believers' Hope

- "...in the word of the truth of the gospel;"
- "...laid up...in heaven..."

B. The Steadfastness in the Believers' Heart

Heb. 6:18 That by two immutable things, in which *it was* impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

19 **Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast**, and which entereth into that within the veil;

C. The Substance for the Believers' Harvest

1:6 Which is come unto you, as *it is* in all the world; **and bringeth forth fruit**, as *it doth* also in you, since the day ye heard of *it*, and **knew the grace of God in truth**:

IV. TRUTH IS PERSONALLY DECLARED, 1:7-8

1:7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you **a faithful minister of Christ**;

8 Who also **declared** unto us your love in the Spirit.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses unto me** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

- **Received by faith**
- **Results in love**
- **Rests in hope**
- **Reaches the world**
- **Reproduces fruit and is**
- **Rooted in grace. And lastly, and this gets it right down to us, listen. The gospel truth is**
- **Reported by men.**



Conclusion

Hope is born = available now!

1 Jn. 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3 And **every man that hath this hope in him** purifieth himself, even as he is pure.