

JESUS IS THE ENDURING HOPE OF THE WORLD, THE

- tender hope who was laid in a manger
- · radiant hope announced from the skies
- astonishing hope worshipped by shepherds
- esteemed hope sought by the Magi
- promised hope who was forsaken
- · cherished hope who was denied
- misunderstood hope who was rejected
- · irreproachable hope who was beaten
- faultless hope who was judged
- sinless hope who was condemned
- · miraculous hope who rose from the dead
- perfect hope who came to save

Jesus is the timeless hope who came to seek, serve, call, forgive, rescue, redeem, and save.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

(Hebrews 6:19)

JESUS IS OUR UNIQUE & EVERLASTING HOPE

Jesus is our hope for the future – the unshakable promise that we will be redeemed.

Jesus is our hope in the present – the undeniable truth that we are loved completely, created with purpose, and never alone.

Jesus is our hope over the past – the assurance that our failures, no matter how many, how big, or for how long, are never greater than His forgiveness and power to transform.



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. (Colossians 1:27)

Biblical hope is a settled, determined, and enduring confidence in who Jesus is and in what He has promised.

Our hope is in Christ alone. His mystery is "embedded within us ... a heavenly treasure." Our once broken relationship, the consequence of living in a sin-stained world, has been grafted into Christ. "... you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in ... to share the rich root of the olive tree" (Romans 11:17 NRSV), "to share in the nourishing sap ..." (NIV).

QUESTIONS ABOUT HOPE

- What does a hope-filled life look like?
- Where do you need hope right now?
- What is the object of your hope?
- What is the anchor of your hope?
- What is your favorite hope-filled Scripture?
- How can we cultivate hope in suffering?
- How does hope shift our understanding of or experience with suffering?

A PRAYER OF HOPE

Dear heavenly Father, thank You for revealing Yourself as the God of hope—the one who intends our hope to abound, who promises our hope will never be cut off, the God Who is our hope. We praise, bless, and adore You.

For our own brokenness and weaknesses, we declare our hope is in You—not in our multiplied resolutions, not in beating ourselves up, not in our doing more and trying harder.

Our hope is in Your steadfast love. Our hope is in Your commitment to pursue us, change us, and bring to completion Your good work in us. This hope will not disappoint or put us to shame (Romans 5:5)... In Jesus' wonderful and merciful name, amen.

(Adapted from Scotty Smith's A Prayer for Hope. Used with permission.)

