

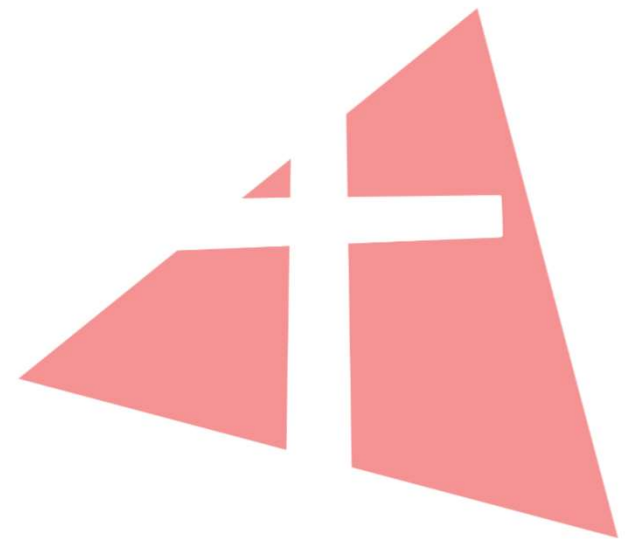
THE HOPE OF CHRISTMAS

December 23rd 2018



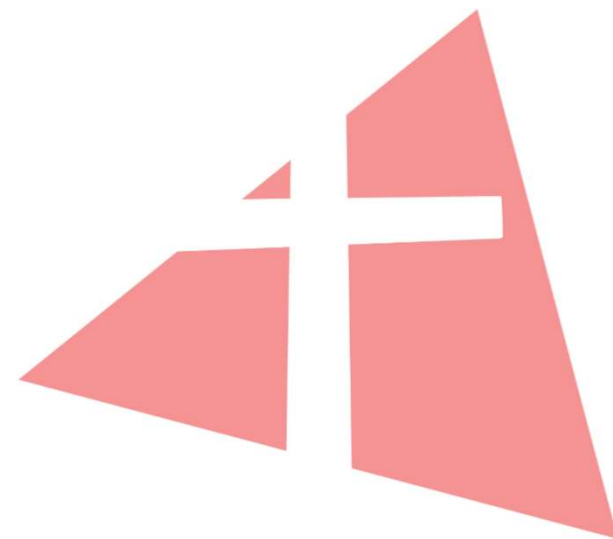
THE 4 VIRTUES THAT JESUS BRINGS

- Hope
- Faith
- Joy
- Peace



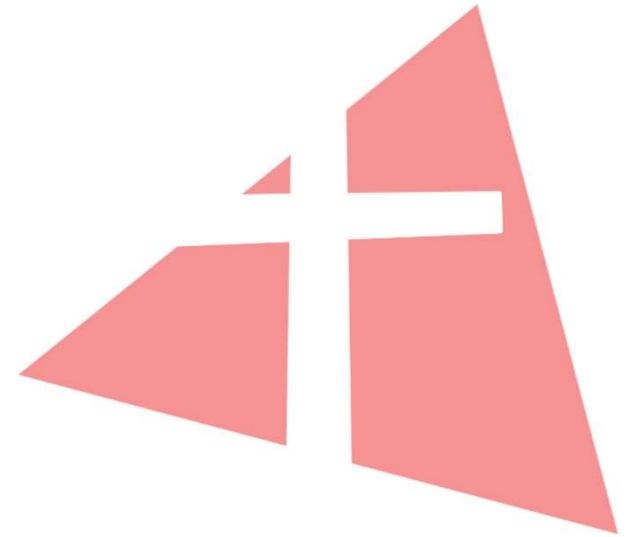
TODAY'S FOCUS

- The Hope of Christmas



OUR DAILY LIVES

- This world looks pretty hopeless



WHERE CAN WE FIND HOPE?

1 Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Savior, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who is our hope;



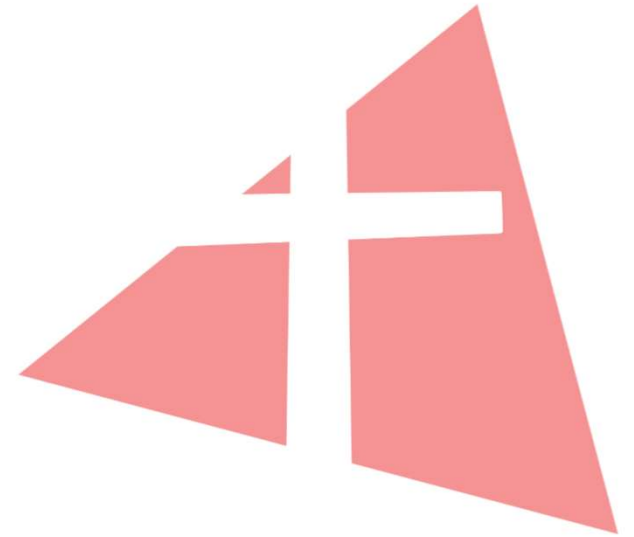
WHAT IS HOPE?

Romans 8:24-25 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man sees, why does he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.



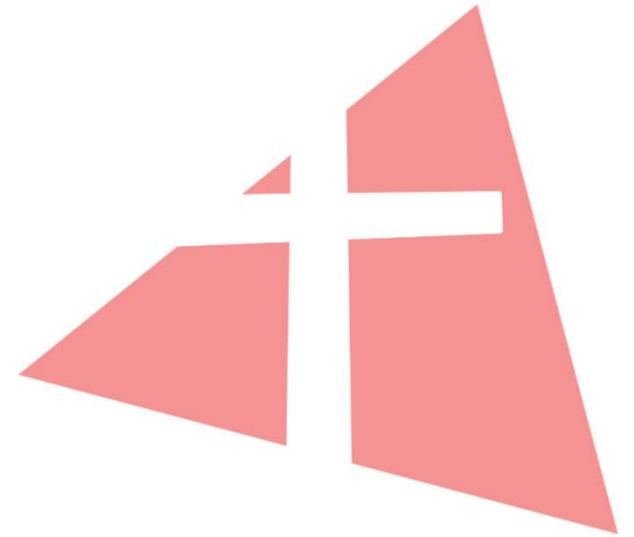
WHAT IS HOPE?

- In general: Assurance that “something good is going to come”
- In Christianity: Assurance of God’s promises



WHAT IS NEEDED FOR HOPE?

- Hope goes hand in hand with Faith



HOPE IS NOT A “QUICK FIX”

Romans 15:4 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.



HOPE FOR THIS LIFE

- **Jesus has overcome this world**

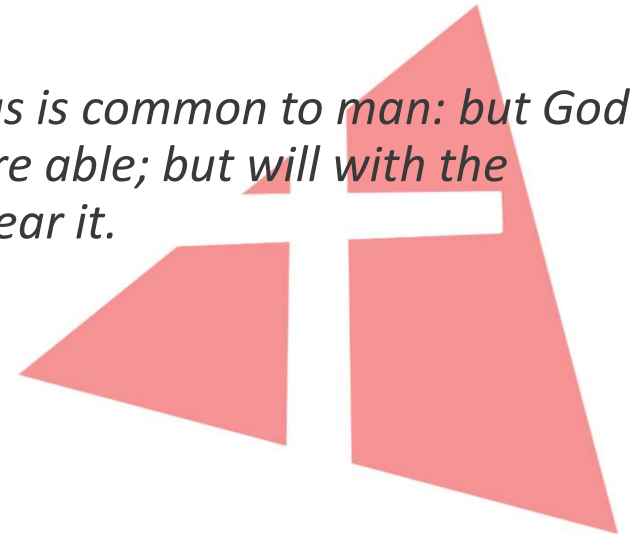
John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.



HOPE FOR THIS LIFE

- **Hope to overcome sin**

1 Corinthians 10:13 There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it.



HOPE FOR THIS LIFE

- **Hope of God's peace**

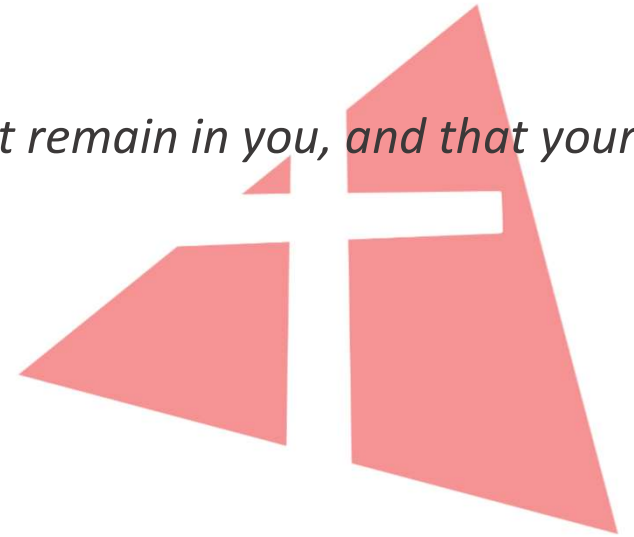
John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.



HOPE FOR THIS LIFE

- **Hope of God's joy**

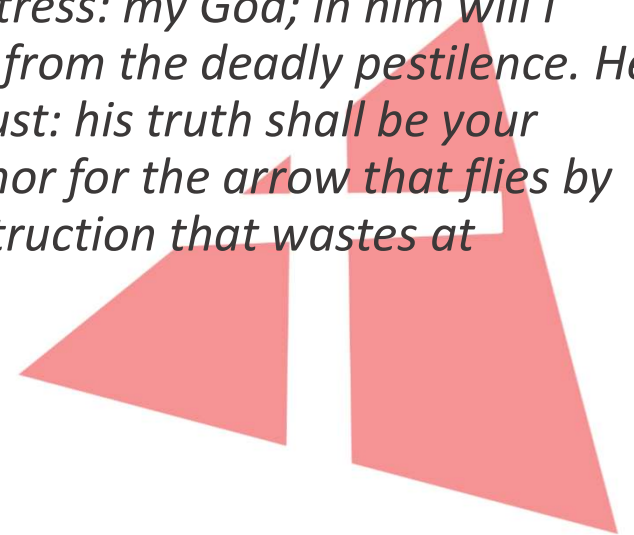
John 15:11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.



HOPE FOR THIS LIFE

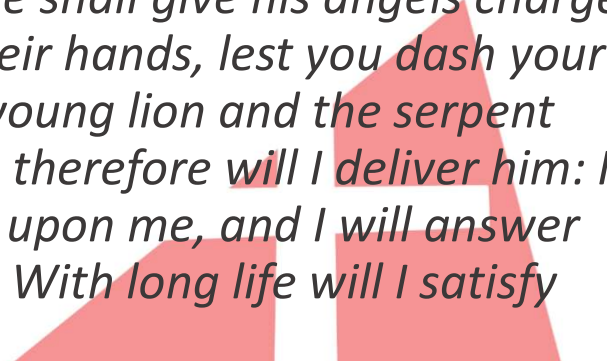
○ Hope for God's protection

Psalms 91:1-16 He that dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and from the deadly pestilence. He shall cover you with his feathers, and under his wings shall you trust: his truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flies by day; Nor for the pestilence that walks in darkness; nor for the destruction that wastes at noonday.



HOPE FOR THIS LIFE

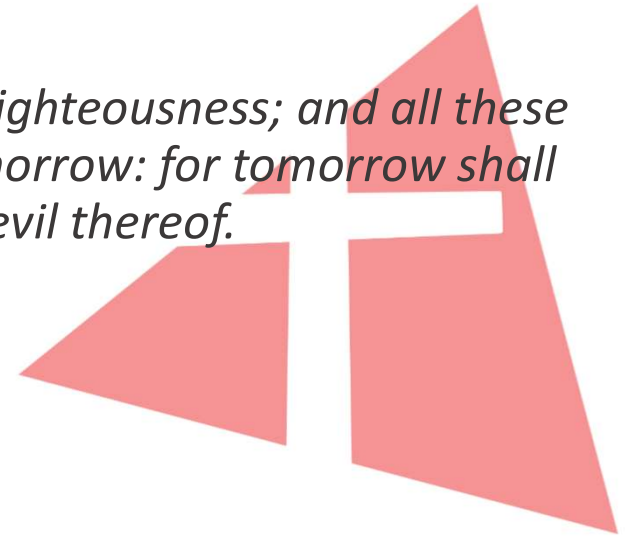
A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the most High, your habitation; There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. They shall bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the serpent shall you trample under feet. Because he has set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he has known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.



HOPE FOR THIS LIFE

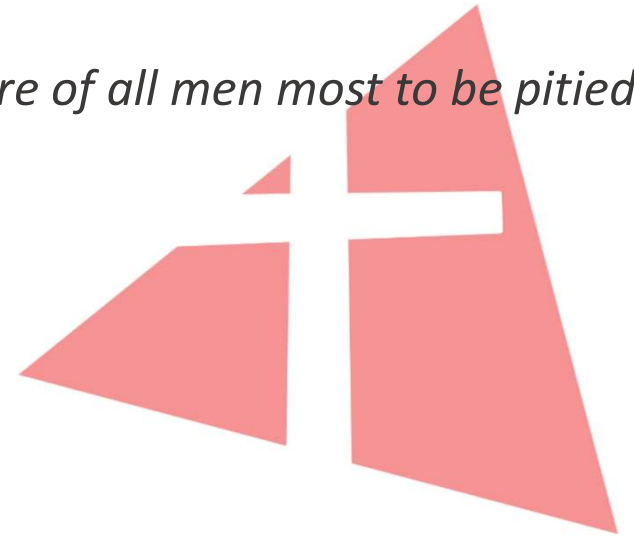
- **Hope in God's provisions**

Matthew 6:33-34 But seek you first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for tomorrow: for tomorrow shall take thought of the things for itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.



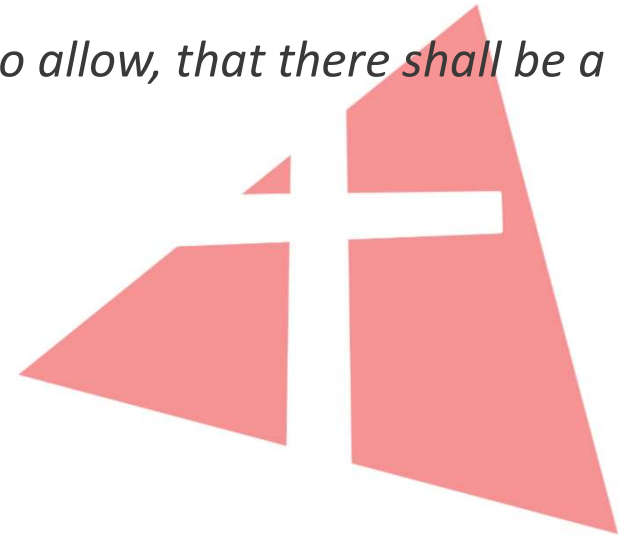
HOPE FOR ETERNITY

1 Corinthians 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied.



HOPE FOR ETERNITY

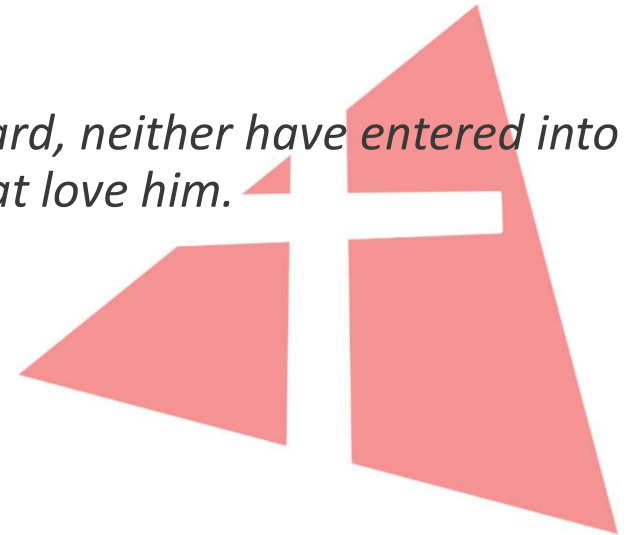
Acts 24:15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.



HOPE FOR ETERNITY

- Hope is not Hope without eternity

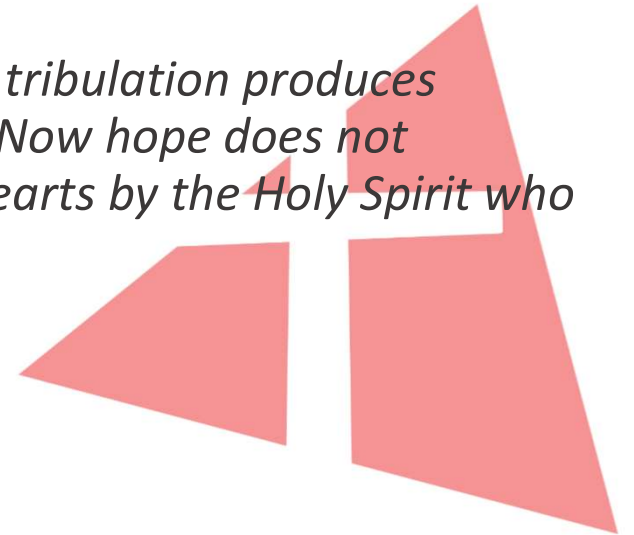
1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for them that love him.



BUT LET'S BE CLEAR

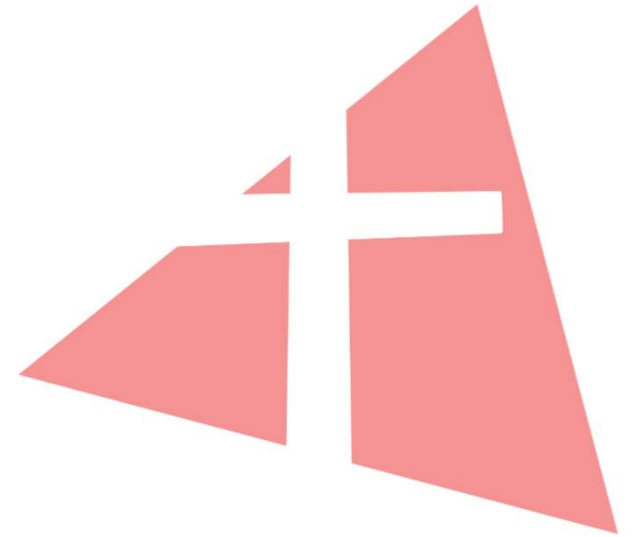
- **Hope needs to be practiced**

And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Rom. 5:3-5, NKJV)



ONE ASPECT OF CHRISTMAS

- Focusing on the hope Jesus brings



OUR ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THIS SEASON

- **Make Jesus the center of everything**
- **Enjoy all the “good things” about Christmas in light of the Hope that only Jesus can give**

