

Hope for Humanity

- It is a dark, dangerous, and often deadly world in which we live.
- Half of our world—3 billion people—live on less than \$2 a day.
- More than 1 billion live on less than \$1 a day.
- One-sixth of the world's population live in slums, in grinding, dehumanizing poverty.
- 40 million people are infected with HIV/AIDS worldwide.
- 70% of people worldwide still live in primarily oral cultures.

But God so **loved** the world that . . .

*"(v.1) 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—(v.2) a faith and knowledge resting on the **hope** of eternal life, which God who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, (v.3) and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior."—Titus 1:1-3*

Faith and knowledge rest on **hope** which comes from God. (v.2a)

We learn that God always **keeps** his promises on His schedule! (v.2b)

What hope did God promise to bring to light? **eternal life!** (v.2a)

The night Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem, a small group of poor shepherds were quietly tending their flocks of sheep in a nearby field, looking up at the stars. Nothing seemed any different from a thousand other nights. But what was about to happen would transform not only their lives but billions of other lives as well. Indeed, the world would never be the same again.

And it has proved to be true! If you stop to think about it, it is astounding that the simple, unassuming birth of a peasant baby boy more than 2000 years ago in the Middle East can today cause traffic jams every December in places like New York City, Tokyo, and Rio de Janeiro.

It was the night God kept his promise!

It was the night Humanity discovered Hope!

So, what is hope?

Define it.

Explain it.

Give me some!

The Bible defines hope as “trust in” or “look expectantly to”.

“(v.28) Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the creator of the ends of the
earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can
fathom.

(v.29) He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

(v.30) Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

(v.31) but those who **hope** in the Lord
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.”

The Bible explains:

- ❖ God gives **strength** to the weary and increases the **power** of the weak.
Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;

BUT

those who **hope** in the Lord will renew their strength.

- ❖ They will **soar** on wings like eagles;

They will **run** and not grow weary,

They will **walk** and not faint.

Do you have what it takes to live life with strength and wisdom?

God does!

Put your hope in Him—today!