



Hope - The Real Crisis of Today

Part One

Pastor Carl Toti

September 12-13, 2020

Romans 15:13 (NLT)

13 I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

WHAT IS HOPE?

Hope isn't wishful thinking, or even positive thinking.

Hope in God isn't delusional.

Hope isn't merely an assumption that a positive outcome is inevitable.

The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines hope simply as "to expect with confidence."

Hope is a confident belief in God that is so rock solid that it leads to purposeful action.

"Our hope is not hung upon such an untwisted thread as, 'I imagine so,' or 'It is likely,' but the cable, the strong tow of our fastened anchor, is the oath and promise of Him who is eternal verity. Our salvation is fastened with God's own hand, and with Christ's own strength, to the strong stake of God's unchangeable nature."

—Samuel Rutherford, (1600-1661, Scottish theologian and professor)

"There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root."

—Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

Psalms 118:8 (BBE)

8 It is better to have faith in the Lord than to put one's hope in man.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

11 For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

JEREMIAH'S MESSAGE OF HOPE

1. No _____ for Real Hope

Jeremiah 29:8-9 (NIV)

8 Yes, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. 9 They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them," declares the LORD.

2. Hope Makes the Most of Every _____

Jeremiah 29:4-6 (NIV)

4 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease.

3. People with Hope _____

Jeremiah 29:7 (NIV)

7 Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

4. God, our _____ of Hope

Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

God thinks of you!!

1 Corinthians 13:13 (NKJV)

13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

**Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith.
Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God.
God is the power that creates the miracle of love.
—source unknown**

ANSWERS:

1. SUBSTITUTE

2. CIRCUMSTANCE

3. PROSPER

4. SOURCE