



Hope - The Real Crisis of Today

Part Four

Pastor Carl Toti

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

PRISONERS OF HOPE

Zechariah 9:11-13 (NKJV)

11 "As for you also, Because of the blood of your covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to the stronghold, You prisoners of hope. Even today I declare That I will restore double to you. 13 For I have bent Judah, My bow, Fitted the bow with Ephraim, And raised up your sons, O Zion, Against your sons, O Greece, And made you like the sword of a mighty man."

1. PRISONERS OF HOPE HAVE A FIRM TOUCH ON _____

Zechariah 2:10-13 (NLT)

10 The LORD says, "Shout and rejoice, O beautiful Jerusalem, for I am coming to live among you. 11 Many nations will join themselves to the LORD on that day, and they, too, will be my people. I will live among you, and you will know that the LORD of Heaven's Armies sent me to you. 12 The land of Judah will be the LORD's special possession in the holy land, and he will once again choose Jerusalem to be his own city. 13 Be silent before the LORD, all humanity, for he is springing into action from his holy dwelling."

2. PRISONERS OF HOPE SEE THE _____ FROM THE PAST

Zechariah 10:8-9 (NLT)

8 When I whistle to them, they will come running, for I have redeemed them. From the few who are left, they will grow as numerous as they were before. 9 Though I have scattered them like seeds among the nations, they will still remember me in distant lands. They and their children will survive and return again to Israel.

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."

—Albert Einstein

"If you want evidence in the existence of God look no further than the Jewish people."

—Carl Toti

3. PRISONERS OF HOPE LIVE IN THE PRESENT WITH THE _____ IN MIND

Zechariah 10:12 (NLT)

12 By my power I will make my people strong, and by my authority they will go wherever they wish. I, the LORD, have spoken!"

"Three grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love and something to hope for."

—Joseph Addison

Tragic Optimism

"I speak of a tragic optimism, that is, an optimism in the face of tragedy and in view of the human potential which at its best always allows for: (1) turning suffering into a human achievement and accomplishment; (2) deriving from guilt the opportunity to change oneself for the better; and (3) deriving from life's transitoriness an incentive to take responsible action."

—Viktor E. Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*

Job 19:25-26 (NKJV)

25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; 26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God,

ANSWERS:

1. REALITY
2. PRESENT
3. FUTURE