

# Hope in the Resurrection

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*The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."*

Psalm 14:1 (NASB)

## What Hope Isn't

Hope is not "I hope the patriots win the Super Bowl" or "I hope I get a raise." Biblical hope is not a "hope-so" but it is a "know-so". It isn't wishing for the best. It isn't waiting to see what happens and hope that it turns out well.

## A Christian's Definition of Hope

A Christian's definition of hope is far superior to that of the world. Instead of wishing or hoping for something to happen, a believer knows that their hope is solid, concrete evidence because it is grounded in the Word of God and we know that God cannot lie.

*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.*

Hebrews 11:1 (NASB)

## Facts of the Resurrection

### 1. A **HISTORICAL** Fact.

*To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.*

Acts 1:3 (NASB)

### 2. The **RESURRECTION** Was Prophesied.

*Unjustly condemned, he was led away. No one cared that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short in midstream. But he was struck down for the rebellion of my people.<sup>9</sup> He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave.<sup>10</sup> But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made*

*an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's good plan will prosper in his hands.*

Isaiah 53:8-10 (NLT)

### 3. The **TOMB** Was Protected.

*So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.*

Matthew 27:66 (NIV)

*The next day, on the Sabbath, the leading priests and Pharisees went to see Pilate.<sup>63</sup> They told him, "Sir, we remember what that deceiver once said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will rise from the dead.'*

*<sup>64</sup> So we request that you seal the tomb until the third day. This will prevent his disciples from coming and stealing his body and then telling everyone he was raised from the dead! If that happens, we'll be worse off than we were at first."*

Matthew 27:62-64 (NLT)

## The resurrection is just the beginning.

The resurrection ended the separation between us and God that sin had created. As Christians, we believe that Jesus will come again and those who have died in the faith are now with the Lord and those of us who are alive will join our Heavenly King and be a part of the kingdom that has no end.

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