

Hope  
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*Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world .* Ephesians 2:12 (NIV)

*And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.* Matthew 27:5 (NASB)

### 1. What do you hope for?

*Half of it he burns in the fire; over this half he eats meat as he roasts a roast and is satisfied. He also warms himself and says, "Aha! I am warm, I have seen the fire." <sup>17</sup> But the rest of it he makes into a god, his graven image. He falls down before it and worships; he also prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god." Isaiah 44:16-17 (NASB)*

- **Where does your hope lie?**

*Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jechiliah of Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> He did right in the sight of the LORD according to all that his father Amaziah had done. <sup>5</sup> He continued to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding through the vision of God; and as long as he sought the LORD, God prospered him. 2 Chronicles 26:3-5 (NASB)*

*In Jerusalem he made engines of war invented by skillful men to be on the towers and on the corners for the purpose of shooting arrows and great stones. Hence his fame spread afar, for he was marvelously helped until he was strong. 2 Chronicles 26:15 (NASB)*

- **Where should my hope lie?**

*"And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You. Psalm 39:7 (NASB)*

*For You are my hope; O Lord GOD, You are my confidence from my youth. Psalm 71:5 (NASB)*

*"So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" 1 Kings 3:9 (NASB)*

### 2. When I lose hope?

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13 (NASB)*

*And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, <sup>4</sup> and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." Revelation 21:3-4 (NASB)*

*For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, 2 Corinthians 4:17 (NASB)*

*After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you. 1 Peter 5:10 (NASB)*

**3. Finding hope?** No Jesus...no hope. Know Jesus...Know hope  
*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)*

### 4. Contagious hope.

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12 (NIV)*

*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)*