

No Hope? Know Hope!

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Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled. Romans 15:4 (NLT)

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? ¹⁵ And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news." Romans 10:14-15 (NLT)

Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; ⁵ and they said to him, "Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations." 1 Samuel 8:4-5 (NASB)

So Samuel passed on the LORD's warning to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹ "This is how a king will reign over you," Samuel said. "The king will draft your sons and assign them to his chariots and his charioteers, making them run before his chariots. ¹² Some will be generals and captains in his army, some will be forced to plow in his fields and harvest his crops, and some will make his weapons and chariot equipment. ¹³ The king will take your daughters from you and force them to cook and bake and make perfumes for him. ¹⁴ He will take away the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his own officials. ¹⁵ He will take a tenth of your grain and your grape harvest and distribute it among his officers and attendants. ¹⁶ He will take your male and female slaves and demand the finest of your cattle and donkeys for his own use. ¹⁷ He will demand a tenth of your flocks, and you will be his slaves. ¹⁸ When that day comes, you will beg for relief from this king you are demanding, but then the LORD will not help you." 1 Samuel 8:10-18 (NLT)

1. We place our hope in what we depend on.

When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he began asking to receive alms. Acts 3:3 (NASB)

2. We place our hope in who we depend on.

King Rehoboam consulted with the elders who had served his father Solomon while he was still alive, saying, "How do you counsel me to answer this people?" ⁷ Then they spoke to him, saying, "If you will be a servant to this people today, and will serve them and grant them their petition, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever."

1 Kings 12:6-7 (NASB)

"Whereas my father loaded you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke; my father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions." 1 Kings 12:11 (NASB)

3. We place our hope in what we believe in.

"If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. ¹⁸ "But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up." Daniel 3:17-18 (NASB)

O LORD, I give my life to you. ² I trust in you, my God! Do not let me be disgraced, or let my enemies rejoice in my defeat.

Psalms 25:1-2 (NLT)

Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you. Psalm 25:5 (NLT)

How many people you know out there living with no hope?

• Where does your hope lie? The LORD!

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? ² My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. ³ He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber. ⁴ Behold, He who keeps Israel Will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵ The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade on your right hand. ⁶ The sun will not smite you by day, Nor the moon by night. ⁷ The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. ⁸ The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever. Psalm 121:1-8 (NASB)

You have the knowledge and power to help others know hope!