

GOD'S GIFT OF HOPE FOR YOU

“Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.” Proverbs 13:12

Poor Substitutes for Hope

- Wishful thinking
- Blind optimism
- Ambitious dreams

For most people, hope is something they do, but the Bible talks about hope as something we can have.

Hope is the confident expectation that God is willing and able to fulfill His promises to us.

“In [God's] great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you.” 1 Peter 1:4

“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.” Hebrews 6:19

Why Christians Have Hope

- **We have hope because we're absolved of our past.**

“This I call to mind and therefore I have hope: because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning.” Lamentations 3:21

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.” 1 Timothy 6:17

- **We have hope because we're assured of our future.**

“He saved us in His mercy – not by virtue of any moral achievement of ours... We are acquitted by His grace, and can look forward in hope to inheriting life eternal.” Titus 3:5,7

A New Year's Prayer for You In the words of the Apostle Paul

“This is my prayer: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the all-glorious Father, will give you spiritual wisdom and the insight to know more of Him that you may receive that inner illumination of the Spirit which will make you realize how great is the hope to which He is calling you – the magnificence and splendor of the inheritance promised to Christians – and how tremendous is the power available to us who believe in God. That power is the same divine energy which was demonstrated in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and gave Him the place of highest honor in heaven – a place that is infinitely superior to any command, authority, power or control, and which carries with it a name far beyond any name that could ever be used in this world or the world to come.” Ephesians 1:16-20

