

## Hope

When you do this study on hope you must remember that what the bible means by hope is very different from the way the word is used in the world. The word means totally sure, certain and reliable. It is something in which we can have complete confidence. If, for example, you read 1 Timothy 1:1 where it talks of God our saviour and Lord Jesus Christ who is our hope, the hope is as sure as God is sure. Biblical hope is much greater than natural hope.

1. Read Ephesians 2:11-13  
In verse 12 what were they without? What also were they without? (you could say they were hopeless.) Do you think having no hope is the same as having no God?  
What were they strangers to that gave them no hope? What had changed all that?  
Read Luke 22:20 to see what is the basis of the covenant by which all can be given hope.
2. Read Jeremiah 18:12  
When is there really no hope for people? Is that because of their own actions or because of God's?
3. Read Psalm 42 & 43  
You can easily read of the state of David's life in both of the psalms, his soul was cast down.  
What did he tell himself to do? Who was the health of David's countenance?  
Did hoping in God bring David to a place of faith in what would happen to him?  
Read Hebrews 11:1 Where in both psalms did he go to?
4. Read Psalm 22, Psalm 16:7-11, Acts 2:24-28  
Who do you think David is speaking for in Psalm 22? What had God caused Jesus to do from His "mother's breasts"? Do you think that was the basis of His trust when all was set against Him on the cross? Is that why He cried to His Father to deliver Him and why He then would praise Father in the midst of the congregation? In Psalm 16 Who is the Holy One that He will not let see corruption? Is this partly why His flesh could rest in hope even in death? Was Jesus' hope justified? How? Jesus is to be our hope in death; He is raised up, that is our hope that God will raise us up.
5. Read 1 Peter 1  
What does Peter say that we are born again unto? By what means did this take place?  
What is the hope unto? What are we kept by and through what until the salvation comes?  
Is this why we can rejoice with joy unspeakable when in difficulties? What did Peter tell them to hope to the end for? In vs. 21 what was their hope and faith to be in? Read vs. 18, 19 & 21 for the basis of this hope and faith. Read 1 Peter 3:15 What should we always be ready to do?
6. Read Hebrews 6:10-20  
What can you see of Who our hope is? What cannot God do? What in vs. 11 should hope give us?
7. Read 1 John 3:1-3, Colossians 1:19-29  
What is the hope here? What are we now? What are we to be in that day?  
What will someone who has that hope in him do? What is the hope of glory?  
Is that our hope or God's hope within us?  
If it is God's can His hope become ours working out in our lives to His glory?  
If His hope becomes ours will we live with a more wonderful confidence of God in our lives?  
What must we not be moved away from?
8. Read Acts 27:20-44, Romans 4:18-5:5, 15:13  
What had happened to Abraham and Paul in their situations?  
As their natural hope had gone what did their godly hope lead them into?  
Read Hebrews 11:1 to see that faith is the substance of things hoped for. When they had godly hope (hope in God) it was the foundation of faith for them to take hold of God in their crisis. What happened to them? How great was their faith? How did Paul exercise his hope and faith? In Romans can you see why experience in the workings of God in tribulation causes our hope to grow? Why? What can the God of hope do for us? (15:13) What will this cause us to do?