



Pray

How does this biblical foundation of Hope inspire you to pray? Is there action you need to take?

How can this passage impact the way you pray for yourself and others?

How does this passage move you to thank and praise God?



Thrilled by Hope | Genesis 3:14-15

Study Guide 1 for Advent Sermon on 12/6/2020



Introduction

“A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.”

We all need some hope after the many challenges 2020 has delivered. Thankfully, God’s people have never been without hope. Many of our friends may be placing their hope in 2021 bringing a fresh change, but Christian hope is anchored in something solid, secure, and certain. Our hope is like an anchor that’s hooked around the throne of God.



Overview

Context: “Hope” is one of those biblical themes that holds the Bible together from Genesis through Revelation. This message traces this gospel-theme throughout Scripture to anchor our hope in God’s promise rather than in our circumstances.

Structure:

- I. The First Gospel (Genesis 3:14-15)
- II. Hope in the Darkness (Isaiah 9:2)
- III. Eternally Secure Hope (Hebrew 6:19-20)



Engage

The First Gospel (Genesis 3:14-15)

1. Who is this promise spoken against? Why is this significant?
2. What is the context of this promise? What comes right before and after?
3. We usually call this passage part of “the curse”... in what ways is it actually a promise?

Hope in the Darkness (Isaiah 9:2)

4. Read Isaiah 9:1-7 and describe the condition of the people to whom this was written. List specific references that help you understand what they are going through.
5. Why do you think “darkness” is such a common metaphor about difficult and painful seasons in life?

6. What does John 1:9-14 say about light in the darkness? How is this God’s fulfillment of Isaiah 9:2?

Eternally Secure Hope (Hebrew 6:19-20)

7. According to Hebrews 6:19-20, what is our “sure and steadfast anchor of the soul?” (no one word answers allowed)
8. V.19 references “the inner place behind the curtain.” What is that in reference to? (if needed, see Exodus 26)
9. What do you know about the High Priest of the Temple? What was their role? Why is it significant to call Jesus the eternal high priest for God’s people?

Tying it Together

10. In what ways do we see God assuring his people they have never been without hope?