

"The Gifts of Christmas: The Necessity of Hope"

Luke 1: 1-25

"Hope is the thing with feathers. That perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all." (Emily Dickenson)

1. Biblical Hope is _____ in _____. (vv. 1-4)
 - 1) The biblical words for "hope" are not an empty _____ or _____ but involved a steadfast _____ that the object of hope would come to pass.
 - 2) The certainty of our "hopes and dreams" rests in them being inspired by and confirmed by the God of heaven.

What are your hopes and are they from God?

2. Biblical Hope is _____ through _____. (vv. 5-7)
 - 1) _____ have you been waiting for?
 - 2) _____ you be waiting for it?
 - 3) How will it bring _____ to God if you received it?

How are you growing in your faith while waiting?

3. Biblical Hope is _____ through _____. (vv. 8-23)
 - 1) Is faith the _____ quality of your life?
 - 2) Will you believe when God _____ His will in an "unbelievable" way?
 - 3) How can you demonstrate faith in _____ things to prepare for God's "big thing"?

Do those who know you view you as a person of faith?

4. Biblical Hope is _____ by _____. (vv. 24-25)
 - 1) What will you do to obey God this Christmas season?
 - 2) How will your obedience reveal to others that your hope is in the Christ of Christmas?
 - 3) Will you stay committed to obeying God until hope is revealed?

How will you trust and obey for the rest of 2022?

"CHRISTmas Hope"

by Deborah Ann Belka

**May the hope of Christmas,
rest upon you tenderly
may the Light Jesus brings . . .
shine upon you warmly.**

**May the hope of Christmas,
greet you affectionately
may the Way Jesus brings
you walk compassionately.**

**May the hope of Christmas,
fill you with peace quietly
may the Truth Jesus brings . . .
reflect in you lovingly.**

**May the hope of Christmas,
you hold onto reverently
may the Love Jesus brings . . .
you pass along generously.**

**May the hope of Christmas,
fill you with joy exceedingly
may the birth of Jesus . . .
shape your life eternally.**

**May the hope of Christmas,
you share with the faithless
may the power Jesus brings . . .
reveal to all His greatness!**

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