

## Hope from Inside the Tomb

Introduction - Is it ever acceptable for a Christian to lose hope?

1. In Christ, we have a personal relationship with the One who proclaims Himself to be “the God of Hope.”

**Romans 15:13** - *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

2. The Bible provides instruction to help us maintain our hope.

**Romans 15:4** - *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

3. Many people have gone before us and faced significant trials without losing hope.

**Job 13:15** - *Though He slay me, I will hope in Him.*

4. We are instructed to never lose hope, and God does not call us to something unless, in His strength, it is possible to live that way.

**Hebrews 10:23** - *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;*

**Psalm 71:14** - *But as for me, I will hope continually, and will praise You yet more and more.*

3 reasons Jesus never lost hope:

### I. Jesus Hoped in the Father Because of His Significant Purpose – vv. 1-13

- A. Explained in Acts 1:8

**Acts 1:6-8** - *So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which*

*the Father has fixed by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."*

B. Consistent with what Jesus valued

**John 3:16** - *For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*

**Acts 2:26** - *Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue exulted, moreover my flesh will live in hope.*

C. Illustrated on the Day of Pentecost

D. The privilege of participating in this purpose generates hope by putting tough times in perspective

## **II. Jesus Hoped in the Father Because of His Reliable Promises – vv. 14-36**

A. The gift of tongues was predicted in the Old Testament

**2 Peter 1:16-21** - *For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty...So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.*

B. The resurrection of Christ was also predicted in the Old Testament

**Acts 2:26** - *Therefore my heart was glad and my tongue exulted; moreover my flesh will live in hope...*

**Acts 2:27** - *Because You will not abandon my soul to Hades, nor allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.*

C. Jesus never lost hope because He knew His Father's Words were trustworthy

**Psalm 16:1** - *Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust.*

1. There is a direct relationship between hope in one's heart and trust in God's Word
2. God does not always tell us everything we would like to know, but He always tells us everything we need to know

### **III. Jesus Hoped in the Father Because of the Powerful Results**

**Acts 2:37** - *Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart...*

**Hebrews 4:12** - *For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

A. Proper response #1 – the question of the people

**v. 37** - *Brethren, what shall we do?*

B. Proper response #2 – the answer of the apostles

1. Repent and believe this message – make an inward change

**Acts 2:21** - *And it shall be that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

**Acts 2:36** - *Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.*

2. Be baptized – make a public profession

C. Proper response #3 – the reaction of the people

**Acts 2:41** - *So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.*