

# Hope Trending

## [1] The Love Song—No More Fear of God

- Thomas Cahill: “There beats in human hearts a hope beyond all opening, the hope of the hopeless, the hope of those who would disclaim any such longing . . . a hope, not for an emperor, not for an exalted one, but for a just one.” (*The Desire of the Everlasting Hills*)
- Reynolds Price: “The Maker of all things loves and wants me.”
- Paul Miller: “Many things in life can’t be observed directly. In quantum physics, you can’t observe a particle’s speed and mass at the same time. Sexual love in marriage is beautiful; sexual love observed is pornography. The act of observing changes sexual intimacy. Some things just disappear when you try to capture or observe them.” (*A Praying Life* 127)
- Christian Wiman: “When I assented to the faith that was latent within me—and I phrase it carefully, deliberately, for there was no light, no ministering or avenging angel that tore my life in two; rather it seemed as if the tiniest seed of belief had finally flowered in me, or, more accurately, as if I had happened upon some rare flower deep in the desert and had known, though I was just discovering it, that it had been blooming impossibly year after parched year in me, surviving all the seasons of my unbelief.” (In Philip Yancey’s *Soul Thirst* 53-54)
- The skeleton
  - Jerry Bergman: If you could complete one new random trial arrangement of these 206 bones every second “for every single second available in all of the estimated evolutionary view of astronomic time (about 10 to 20 billion years), using the most conservative estimate . . . the chances that the correct general position will be obtained by random is less than once in 10 billion years.”
  - “For all practical purposes a zero possibility exists that the correct general position of only 206 parts could be obtained simultaneously by chance—and the average human has about 75 trillion cells!” (In John Ashton’s *In Six Days* 27)
- Genesis 1:1, 26-27, 31

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- John 1:1-3, 14
- John 3:16
- John 15:13-14
- Freddie Mercury's final press release: "You can have everything in the world and still be the loneliest man, and that is the most bitter type of loneliness. I've had lots of lovers. I've tried relationships on either side, male and female. But all of them have gone wrong. Success brought me idolizations and millions of pounds, but it's prevented me from having the one thing that we all need—a loving, ongoing relationship."

### Questions:

- \_\_\_How shall we explain this hunger for a loving relationship in the human heart?
- \_\_\_If you can't prove it, does that mean it doesn't exist? How do you prove the existence of beauty, the existence of love, the existence of God?
- \_\_\_Why do we find the notion—*the Maker of all things loves and wants me*—so appealing and attractive?
- \_\_\_Could it be we were all created with a God-shaped vacuum in our hearts?