

Anticipating what God has in store for us can put a smile in our heart. Hope gives us poise and lets us live with inner strength, because we know that one day we will be dramatically different than we are now.

If you are in some way damaged by past abuse or feeling defeated by sin, or if you feel so inferior to others that you walk with your eyes to the ground, take heart in what God has in store for you. Live today with the courage God gives you. Make what you can of your afflictions. But rejoice because all that degrades and limits you is only temporary. It will be gone--some of it sooner rather than later.

If you have a living hope in Christ, you can deal with your past because of your future. God's glorious best for you lies up ahead. --HWR

*Lord, give us grace to trust You when  
Life's burdens seem too much to bear;  
Dispel the darkness with new hope  
And help us rise above despair. --Sper*

**Christians can cope with their past because of their hope in the future.**



## Central Mountains Baptist Church

# OCTOBER 11, 2015

### A Living Hope

**Blessed be [God] . . . who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope. --1 Peter 1:3**

Life is hard for everybody, but it is much harder for some than for others. Putting our trust in Christ as our Savior does little to change that. Nothing in the Bible promises us a free pass merely because we are Christ's followers. In fact, some of our wounds may not heal and some of our deficiencies may not be corrected during our lifetime. They may even get worse. Yet all of our deformities and weaknesses are only temporary.





# I Peter: Overcoming Suffering Maintaining Hope

In 1 Peter 1:3-6 there are two descriptions of our future:

1. A \_\_\_\_\_, verses 3, 23, 2 Peter 3:13

Three comments on verse 3:

- ◆ Our \_\_\_\_\_ is based on God's abundant \_\_\_\_\_ at salvation, verses 3, 23

(1 Timothy 1:13-14) "... I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. {14} And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus."

(Ephesians 2:4-5) "But God, who is rich in mercy, ...

{5} ... made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),"

(John 3:3) "... Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

- ◆ Our \_\_\_\_\_ is described as \_\_\_\_\_ because Christ is \_\_\_\_\_, verses 3, 2 Peter 3:13

(Philippians 1:21) "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

- ◆ Our hope is to be \_\_\_\_\_,

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



2. An \_\_\_\_\_, verses 4-6

Three comments on verses 4-5:

- ◆ Our \_\_\_\_\_ is based on God's \_\_\_\_\_ power in this \_\_\_\_\_, verses 4-5

(Ephesians 2:8) "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,"



- ◆ There are four descriptions of our \_\_\_\_\_, v4

I \_\_\_\_\_

U \_\_\_\_\_

U \_\_\_\_\_

R \_\_\_\_\_

- ◆ Our \_\_\_\_\_ will be realised at the \_\_\_\_\_, verses 4-5

(1 Corinthians 3:11-14) "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. {12} Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, {13} each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. {14} If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward."

(Revelation 19:11) "Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war."

(Revelation 19:14-15) "And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. {15} Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."

(Revelation 20:4) "And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. ..."

(Revelation 20:6) "Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."

(Revelation 20:14-15) "Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. {15} And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

(Revelation 21:1-7) "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. {2} Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. {3} And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. {4} "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." {5} Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." {6} And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. {7} "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son."



(Jeremiah 29:11) "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."