

Hope - Week 1
Promises and Hope

May 16 & 17, 2009
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In hope against hope he believed... Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead... yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform. Romans 4:18-21 (NASB)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the men of old gained approval. Hebrews 11:1-2 (NASB)

1. The Bible is Written to Give Us Hope

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. Romans 15:4 (NASB)

Three Kinds of Hope:

- Desperation Based Hope
- Optimism Based Hope
- God's Promises Based Hope

*"I know the plans that I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope."
Jeremiah 29:11 (NASB)*

He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature... 2 Peter 1:4 (NASB)

2. Three Hope Killers:

- Disobedience
Your wickedness has deprived you of these wonderful blessings. Your sin has robbed you of all these good things. Jeremiah 5:25 (NLT)
- Defeatism
In hope against hope he believed... Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead... Romans 4:18-19
- Unforgiveness
But the LORD was with Joseph there, too, and he granted Joseph favor with the chief jailer. Genesis 39:21 (NLT)