



"Hope is always an object and an expectation. We're always hoping in something, and asking that something to deliver something for us."

Paul Tripp

4 Things about Hope before we start

- 1) The Christmas story is a story of hope.**
- 2) Before we can realize true hope, we must understand hopelessness**
- 3) In order for an object of hope to be worth hoping in, that object must repair that which is broken, it must heal what has been wounded....**
- 4) Real Hope is a person. His name is Jesus.**

**I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her
offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”**

Genesis 3:15

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen..."

Deuteronomy 18:15

**"For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his
shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."**

Isaiah 9:6

**"But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of
Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days."**

Micah 5:2

The Angel's Message to Mary

1) You're having a baby.

The Angel's Message to Mary

- 1) You're having a baby.**
- 2) He will be great and will be called son of the Most High.**

"Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, Israel is my firstborn son...'"

Exodus 4:22

**"When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son."**

Hosea 11:1

The Angel's Message to Mary

- 1) You're having a baby.**
- 2) He will be great and will be called son of the Most High.**
- 3) He will be given the throne of his father, David.**

The Angel's Message to Mary

- 1) You're having a baby.**
- 2) He will be great and will be called son of the Most High.**
- 3) He will be given the throne of his father, David.**
- 4) His Kingdom will never end.**

"And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

2 Samuel 7:16

**"And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed."**

Daniel 7:14

**"Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."**

Isaiah 9:7

**"Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all
generations.**

**[The Lord is faithful in all his words
and kind in all his works.]"**

Psalm 145:13

Mary's Question

How can this be, since I am a virgin?

The Angel's Message to Mary

- 1) You're having a baby.**
- 2) He will be great and will be called son of the Most High.**
- 3) He will be given the throne of his father, David.**
- 4) His Kingdom will never end.**
- 5) Nothing is impossible with God.**

The Angel and Zechariah

How can I be sure of this?

"And Zechariah said to the angel, 'How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.'"

Luke 1:18

Zechariah's Mistake

- 1) He forgot the story he was living in.**
- 2) He put himself at the center of the story.**

**"If you really ask God, from humble doubt
for insight into who he is and what he does,
He just might give it to you."**

J.D. Greear

"Are you willing to doubt your doubts as much or more as you're willing to doubt God?"

What does real, true, certain Hope look like?

1) Hope understands what the favor of God is.

**"And he came to her and said, 'Greetings,
O favored one, the Lord is with you!'"**

Luke 1:28

**"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing
salvation for all people, training us to
renounce ungodliness and worldly passions,
and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly
lives in the present age, waiting for our
blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of
our great God and Savior Jesus Christ..."**

Titus 2:11-13

"So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

Hebrews 6:17-20

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you..."

1 Peter 1:3-4

What does real, true, certain Hope look like?

- 1) Hope understands what the favor of God is.**
- 2) Hope magnifies the Lord.**

**“And Mary said,
My soul magnifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...”**

Luke 1:46-47

What does real, true, certain Hope look like?

- 1) Hope understands what the favor of God is.**
- 2) Hope magnifies the Lord.**
- 3) Hope grows like a baby in a womb that was barren.**

"And Zechariah said to the angel, 'How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.'"

Luke 1:18

"After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, 'Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.'"

Luke 1:24-25

"...and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!'"

Luke 1:42



What does real, true, certain Hope look like?

- 1) Hope understands what the favor of God is.**
- 2) Hope magnifies the Lord.**
- 3) Hope grows like a baby in a womb that was barren.**
- 4) Hope prepares the way of the Lord.**

"Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts."

Malachi 3:1

**"And you, child, will be called the prophet of
the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare
his ways..."**

Luke 1:76

Hope Prepares the Way

**Hope doesn't ask long,
what is God going to do for the broken and hurting?**

**Hope doesn't ask long,
what is God going to do about ISIS?**

**Hope doesn't ask long,
what is God going to do about the
problems I'm facing?**

**Hope is confident of this:
With God, a promise made is a promise kept.**