

Hope: The Ultimate Hope

December 18, 2011

Your Ultimate Source of Hope

To be Ready for Christ's ______

We are filled with hope, as we wait for the glorious return of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. Titus 2:13 (CEV)

To Live _____

And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-15 (NLT)

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2 Timothy 4:18 (NIV)

- To Dwell in God's ______
 - 1. Heaven is a _____ place

My Father's house has many rooms. If that were not true, would I have told you that I'm going to prepare a place for you? If I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again. Then I will bring you into my presence so that you will be where I am. John 14:2-3 (GW)

2. Heaven is a _____ place

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." Revelation 21:4 (NLT)

3. Heaven is _____ place

Then we who are still alive will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:17-18 (HCSB)

4. Heaven is a _____ place

The master answered, 'You did well. You are a good and loyal servant. Because you were loyal with small things, I will let you care for much greater things. Come and share my joy with me.' Matthew 25:23 (NCV)

Then when Christ the Chief Shepherd returns, you will be given a crown that will never lose its glory. 1 Peter 5:4 (CEV)

How Can You Have this Ultimate Hope?

Trust in Christ as an act of ______

This Good News tells us that God makes us ready for heaven—makes us right in God's sight—when we put our faith and trust in Christ to save us. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scripture says it, "The man who finds life will find it through trusting God." Romans 1:17 (TLB)

Make Christ your ______

I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith. I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead! Philippians 3:7-11 (NLT)

My Next Step Today Is To . . .

- □ By faith I choose to trust God, putting my hope in Him.
- Admit that I tend to live like this is all there is. In light of this I'm asking God to help me live with eternity in mind.
- Praise God that Jesus is preparing a place for me in the Kingdom of Heaven.
- Meditate and/or memorize Titus 2:13
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