

Introduction

1. The passage speaks about Hope
2. Hope refers to the Future
3. Do you think about your future?
ILLUSTRATION: an aeroplane – not safe

1. THE CHRISTIAN HAS AN UNMISTAKABLE HOPE

- 1) Everyone needs hope – the opposite is despair:
ILLUSTRATION
 (i) a sick patient in hospital
 (ii) shipwrecked on a deserted island
- 2) There are 2 kinds of hope:
 (i) hope which has no warrant from God
ILLUSTRATION: you buy a car – no warranty
 (ii) hope which has a warrant
- 3) The unbeliever's hope is worthless:
 "I hope God will forgive/receive to heaven"
APPLICATION: Consider: Proverbs 10:28; Proverbs 11:7
- 4) But the believer's hope is steadfast:
ILLUSTRATION: compared to an anchor!
- 5) How do people get this hope? (v.18)
ILLUSTRATION: The city of refuge. Explain
OBSERVE: You have to lay hold on it.
APPLICATION: Make sure you have it: "sure..."

2. THE CHRISTIAN'S HOPE GIVES HIM DEEP ASSURANCE

- 1) A worthless hope is a sheer deception:
ILLUSTRATION: a mountaineer with bad rope!
 - 2) False hopes: baptism / decent life / church / secret prayer...
 - 3) What is the sure hope of Christians? It is a hope consisting of 2 unbreakable things:
 (i) God's promise: to bless all believers
 (ii) God's oath: to be our God forever
ILLUSTRATION: the case of Abraham (v.13-15)
 - 4) How sure is your hope? ANSWER: Absolutely:
 (i) a promise from God which cannot fail
 (ii) an oath by God which cannot be broken
ILLUSTRATION: Kings make treaties on oath
 - 5) Look at this language here:
 (i) "two immutable things" (v.18)
 (ii) "impossible for God to lie" (v.18)
Q. What in all the world is immutable?
A. "Mountains", say many people
 - 6) No – they will be shaken in the end – but look at God's words:
 Isaiah 54:10
 - 7) So, believers have a "strong consideration"!
ILLUSTRATION: cotton / steel. "Will your anchor hold?"
- ### 3. THE CHRISTIAN'S HOPE IS GOOD FOR TIME AND ETERNITY
- 1) The hope of heaven which every unbeliever has is made of cotton; the believers' of steel
 - 2) Look at these words:
 (i) "two immaculate things"
 (ii) "anchor of the soul"

(iii) "sure and steadfast"

APPLICATION: Supposing you face illness, trouble or death – have you this hope?

3) The believer's hope is for all eternity:

(i) "entereth...veil" (v.19). Explain,

(ii) "the forerunner" = Christ our Lord

(iii) "high priest forever"

4) The hope is to be in glory with God in Christ forever: Time > Eternity

CONCLUSION

1. There is no other hope like it

2. **Illustration:** Would you fly in a bad aeroplane?

3. This hope never crashes!

PSALM

31: 1 – 5

46: 7 – 11

16: 7 – 11