



A STUDY ON BIBLICAL HOPE

# HOPE IN THE LORD

A PUBLICATION OF RAY REYNOLDS RAP

***BIBLE CLASS STUDY GUIDE***

*Prepared by Ray Reynolds, Ph.D.*



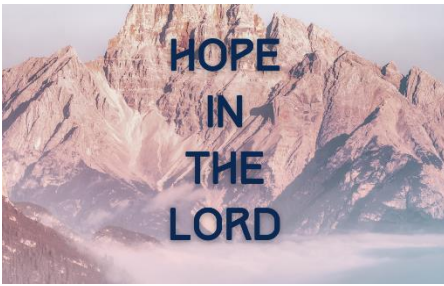
BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

*Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STUDY OUTLINES	PAGE
1) Why Do We Need Hope? . . . . .	3
2) What Is This Hope? . . . . .	4
3) How Can Our Hope Rescue Others? . . . . .	5
4) Hope in the Old Testament . . . . .	6
5) Hope in the New Testament . . . . .	7
6) Words of Hope From the Apostle John . . . . .	8
7) Words of Hope From the Apostle Paul . . . . .	9
8) Words of Hope From the Apostle Peter . . . . .	10
9) The Hope of Glory . . . . .	11
10) A Life Rooted in Hope . . . . .	12
11) Our Hope of Salvation . . . . .	13
12) The Secret of Our Hope . . . . .	14

This study guide was created by Ray Reynolds in 2016 and copyrighted by Reynolds Rap Publications in 2021. The material presented in this series will be gleaned from personal notes, the New King James Study Bible, Dr. Coy Roper, Dr. Steven Guy, Dr. Edgar Elliot, Dr. Ray Hendrix, Dr. Stephen Williams, Dr. Ted Burseson, Dr. Rosemary Snodgrass, Billy Graham, Billy Lambert, and various other sources.



# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER ONE: *Why Do We Need Hope?*

Introduction: Throughout the New Testament we can clearly see that there are two distinct lifestyles of people on the earth. There are those who have received Jesus Christ and have decided to faithfully serve Him. Then, there are others who have chosen a life of sin and rebellion. This determines the difference between those who have hope and those who are hopeless. Let's study together...

#### Discussion:

#### **I. People Choose A Hopeless Life**

A. Sin starts with desire.

**James 1:15** says, "Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

B. Sin causes us to drift.

**Isaiah 53:6** says, "All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

C. Sin is very deceptive.

**I Corinthians 6:9** says, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God?"

D. Sin promises more than it can deliver.

**Romans 6:6** says, "knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin."

E. Sin is always destructive.

**Romans 5:12** says, "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."

**There is only one hope for people who practice sin – Jesus.**

#### **II. A Hopeless Life Be Dangerous**

A. A hopeless life is guided by rebellion.

**I Corinthians 6:10** – This passage was written as a warning to Christians who are caught up in sexuality, sensuality, disobedience and rebellion.

B. A hopeless life is evidence of our refusal to accept Jesus.

**Romans 1:28-32** – God gives those over who choose to continue in sin. He reminds us sin is serious. Judicial pardon means that God judges our sin in the death of Jesus Christ. We need pardon, forgiveness, and cleansing.

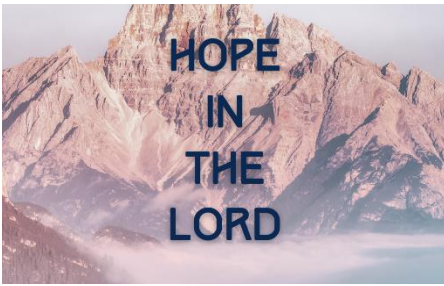
C. A hopeless life reveals the works of the flesh.

**Galatians 5:19-21** – Here, Paul describes how a person naturally acts without God. The opposite is clearly one who bears the fruit of the Spirit.

**There is only one hope for people who feel helpless and hopeless – Jesus.**

Conclusion: You need hope today. Will you come to Jesus, surrender your sins at his feet, confess your desire to make Him your Savior, change your life so that you can trust Him, and be immersed into His precious blood through baptism. And if you have fallen, or strayed from the path, experience a renewed hope today by rededicating your life. We are ready to assist you!





# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER TWO: *What is This Hope?*

Introduction: One specific way we can encourage one another, and grow the church, is to remind one another that we have a GREAT hope! Christianity is said to have been the fastest growing movement of any kind ever in the history of the world. Jesus introduced the basic principles of His way during His ministry, but He kept telling His disciples not to tell anyone about it until He was risen from the dead (**Matthew 16:20; 17:9**). When the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples at the first Jewish Pentecost day after the resurrection, they began teaching it everywhere they went (consider the book of Acts). Peter (their primary leader) said, “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*” (**I Peter 1:3**). What does it mean to have this hope? Let’s study together...

#### Discussion:

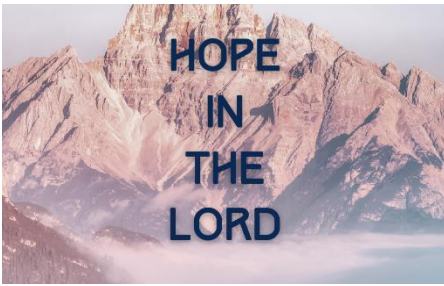
#### **I. What Is The Reality of This Hope?**

- A. We Can Have Hope of A Heavenly Reward (**Matthew 6:19-20**)
- B. We Can Have Hope In The Gospel (**Acts 28:20**)
- C. We Can Have Hope of Salvation In Christ (**Romans 8:24-25**)
- D. We Can Have Hope of Resurrection (**I Corinthians 15**)
- E. We Can Have Hope In Our Calling (**Ephesians 1:18, 4:4**)
- F. We Can Have Hope That Is Glorious (**Colossians 1:27**)
- G. We Can Have Hope That Is Good (**II Thessalonians 2:16**)
- H. We Can Have Hope of Eternal Life (**Titus 1:2, 3:7**).
- I. We Can Have Hope That Is Blessed (**Titus 2:13**)
- J. We Can Have Hope That Is Joyful (**Hebrews 3:6**)
- K. We Can Have Hope That Is Steadfast & Sure (**Hebrews 6:19**)
- L. We Can Have Hope That Is A Living Hope (**I Peter 1:3**)

#### **II. Why Do People Reject This Hope?**

- A. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Is NOT The Will of God (**Genesis 2:1-3:24**)
- B. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Will Allow Them To Drift Away (**Isaiah 53:6**)
- C. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Follows The Broad Road (**Matthew 7:13-14**)
- D. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Anti-Thesis of God’s Plan (**John 3:16-17**)
- E. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Refuses To Accept Jesus (**Romans 1:28-32**)
- F. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Leads To Eternal Death (**Romans 3:23, 6:23**)
- G. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Is Always Destructive (**Romans 5:12**)
- H. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Promises More Than It Can Deliver (**Romans 6:6**)
- I. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Is Very Deadly And Deceptive (**I Corinthians 6:9**)
- J. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Is Guided By Rebellion (**I Corinthians 6:10**)
- K. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Reveals The Works Of The Flesh (**Galatians 5:19-21**)
- L. Some People Prefer Sinful Living That Is In Opposition To Godly Living (**James 1:15**)

Conclusion: We opened with a Bible passage from the apostle Peter and we need to read the rest of that context (vs.3-21). Did you notice that He used the word “hope” three times? We already noticed verse 3, but notice also that he said, “*Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*” (**I Peter 1:13**) and speaking of Christ he said, “*He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God*” (**I Peter 1:20-21**).



# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER THREE: *How Can Our Hope Rescue Others?*

**Introduction:** There is a great difference between being hopeful and hopeless. This great gap between being hopeful and hopeless has been bridged! Jesus died so that you might be able to be full of hope. He paid a huge price for you to have this hope. If we accept His loving sacrifice we should also rejoice in the hope of salvation. Peter found this hope. He challenges you and I to find this hope as well. In fact, he says, “*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.*” (I Peter 3:15-16). How can we rescue the lost by defending our faith and sharing the hope that is in us? Let’s study together...

#### Discussion:

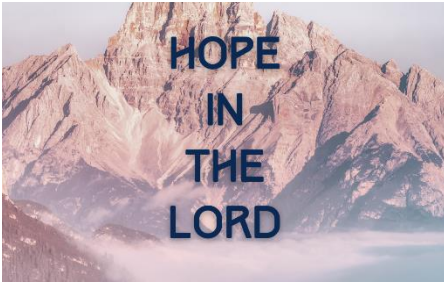
#### **I. What Message of Hope Could Influence People to Be Saved?**

- A. The Lord Radiates His Love And Mercy Toward Us (Psalm 31:24, 33:18)
- B. The Lord Raises Up Those Who Trust In Him (Isaiah 40:31, 57:10)
- C. The Lord Rewards Us For Abandoning The Flesh For The Spirit (Galatians 5:16-23)
- D. The Lord Receives Us And Grants Us Access To Him (Romans 5:1-5)
- E. The Lord Reverses Our Condition (Romans 5:9)
- F. The Lord Removes Our Condemnation (Romans 8:1)
- G. The Lord Radically Blesses Us With Eternal Love (I Corinthians 13:9-13)
- H. The Lord Reveals Our Seal By Giving Us The Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13-18)
- I. The Lord Returns For Those Who Long For His Next Appearing (Titus 2:13)
- J. The Lord Recovers Us By Covering A Multitude Of Sins (Hebrews 10:14)
- K. The Lord Releases Us To Tell Others (I Peter 3:15-16)
- L. The Lord Restores Our Soul By Washing Us From Our Sins (I John 1:9-10)

#### **II. What Will Happen When People Receive This Hope?**

- A. There Will Be Salvation (John 3:16-17, Luke 19:10)
- B. There Will Be Justification (Romans 5:9)
- C. There Will Be No Condemnation (Romans 8:1)
- D. There Will Be Cleansing of Sin (I John 1:9-10)
- E. There Will Be Covering of Sin By The Blood of Jesus (Hebrews 10:14)

**Conclusion:** We have heard this verse (I Peter 3:15-16). We know the implications of its truth. We also know that you can’t teach what you don’t know... and you can’t defend what you do not believe. However, there is another vital truth we must accept from these words of Peter. We cannot give what we do not have. If I have no hope... I cannot give you hope. If I have no hope in me... I cannot have humility and meekness... I do not truly fear God... I do not have a clear conscience... and I cannot overcome those who oppose me. Therefore, I am ashamed and lost. But... if I do have this hope... I have everything I will ever need! Do you have this hope? Do you share this hope? Let’s fulfill the will of God and share hope with those who need it.



# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER FOUR: *Hope in the Old Testament*

Introduction: If there is one thing we need today in our world it is something to hope for (or to hope in). We need hope! There is no doubt in my mind that this topic is one of the most neglected in our teaching and preaching today. Depending on the translation you are using, the root word “hope” is found somewhere between 142 times (KJV) to 182 times (NIV). In this lesson, I want us to take a close look at just a handful of Old Testament passages that deal with the subject of hope. Let’s study together...

#### Discussion:

##### **I. We Need A Heavenward Hope**

**Psalm 31:24** says, “Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the LORD.”

##### **II. We Need A Merciful Hope**

**Psalm 33:18** says, “Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy.”

##### **III. We Need A Continuous Hope**

**Psalm 71:14** says, “But I will hope continually, and will praise You yet more and more.”

##### **IV. We Need A Joyful Hope**

**Psalm 146:5** says, “Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God.”

##### **V. We Need A Righteous Hope**

**Proverbs 10:28** says, “The hope of the righteous will be gladness, But the expectation of the wicked will perish.”

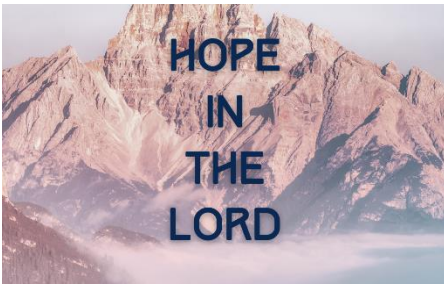
##### **VI. We Need A Steadfast Hope**

**Isaiah 57:10** says, “You are wearied in the length of your way; Yet you did not say, 'There is no hope.' You have found the life of your hand; Therefore you were not grieved.”

##### **VII. We Need A Quiet Hope**

**Lamentations 3:26** says, “It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.”

Conclusion: There is little doubt that the world needs hope today. There has to be a reason why God intended for this word to be used throughout the Bible. In fact, Paul says that in the very end only three things remain and survive the tests of time: “Faith, Hope and Love” (**I Corinthians 13:13**). Do you need some hope today? Are you ready to share hope with others? Come to Jesus!



# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER FIVE: *Hope in the New Testament*

Introduction: We need hope today! There is no doubt in my mind that this topic is one of the most neglected in our teaching and preaching today. Depending on the translation you are using, the root word “hope” is found somewhere between 142 times (KJV) to 182 times (NIV). In this lesson, I want us to take a close look at just a handful of New Testament passages that deal with the subject of hope. Let’s study together...

#### Discussion:

##### **I. We Have A Glorious Hope**

**Romans 5:1-5** says, “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

##### **II. We Have An Abounding Hope**

**Romans 15:13-14** says, “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. Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.”

##### **III. We Have An Abiding Hope**

**I Corinthians 13:13** says, “And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

##### **IV. We Have A Bold Hope**

**II Corinthians 3:12** says, “Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech.”

##### **V. We Have A Calling Hope**

**Ephesians 1:15-18** says, “Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.”

##### **VI. We Have A Saving Hope**

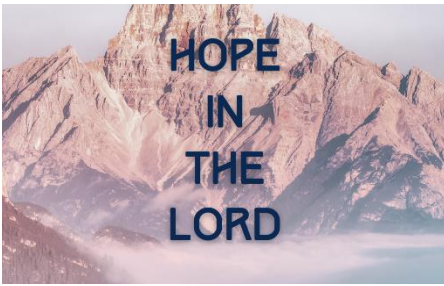
**I Thessalonians 5:8** says, “But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.”

##### **VII. We Have A Blessed Hope**

**Titus 2:13** says, “for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Conclusion: There is little doubt that the world needs hope today. There has to be a reason why God intended for this word to be used throughout the Bible. Do you need some hope today? Are you ready to share hope with others? Come to Jesus!





# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER SIX:

### *Words of Hope From The Apostle John*

Introduction: There should be no doubt that we live in a world of uncertainties. We are uncertain of the timing of trials on the horizon. We cannot predict situations and problems. And we certainly have no hope of tomorrow. John's writings begin and end with a message of hope. We need to listen to his boldness and wisdom. He has no doubt that he is speaking the truth. Let's take a closer look and see if we can gain insight, hope, and assurance. Let's study together...

#### Discussion:

#### **I. *There is Hope For Those Who Are Beloved by God***

*I John 3:1-3 says, "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."*

#### **II. *There is Hope For Those Who Are Born of God***

*I John 5:18 says, "We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him."*

#### **III. *There is Hope For Those Who Belong To God***

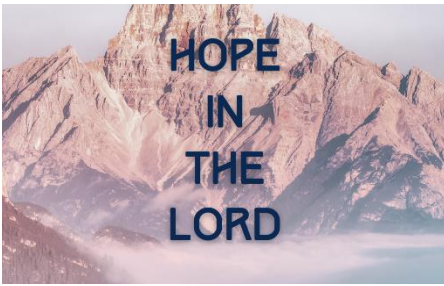
*I John 5:19 says, "We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one."*

#### **IV. *There is Hope For Those Who Believe in God***

*I John 5:20 says, "And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."*

Conclusion: The apostle John also uses the word "hope" in his other letters (II John 12, III John 14). He says that he has "hope" to visit the brethren. We need to keep in mind that these great assurances are available to every faithful Christian. The only thing required for these assurances is being a Christian. If you are not a Christian then you have no assurance. Why not accept Jesus today and repent of the sin in your life? You can be forgiven of all your trespasses and you can have an everlasting hope!





# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER SEVEN:

#### *Words of Hope From The Apostle Paul*

Introduction: Christianity is said to have been the fastest growing movement of any kind ever in the history of the world. Jesus introduced the basic principles of His way during His ministry, but He kept telling His disciples not to tell anyone about it until He was risen from the dead (**Matthew 16:20; 17:9**). When the Holy Spirit came on the first Jewish Pentecost day after the resurrection, they began teaching it everywhere they went. Paul adds to that great hope in I Thessalonians by telling us that Jesus may have ascended into heaven, but He will return. Let's study together...

#### Discussion:

##### ***I. There is Hope Because Jesus Is Coming***

**I Thessalonians 4:15** says, *"For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep."*

##### ***II. There is Hope Because The Resurrection is Coming***

**I Thessalonians 4:16** says, *"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first."*

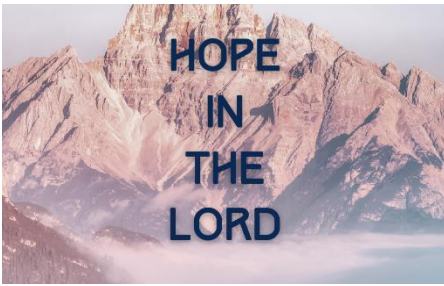
##### ***III. There is Hope Because Heaven Is Coming***

**I Thessalonians 4:17** says, *"Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord."*

##### ***IV. There is Hope Because Comfort Is Coming***

**I Thessalonians 4:18** says, *"Therefore comfort one another with these words."*

Conclusion: There is a great difference between being hopeful and hopeless. This great gap between being hopeful and hopeless has been bridged! Jesus died so that you might be able to be full of hope. He paid a huge price for you to have this hope. He loves you. Don't let Him die in vain for you. Accept His loving sacrifice. Rejoice in the hope of salvation. Paul found this hope and he challenges you to find it as well. He wanted the brethren to comfort one another with this wonderful hope. Listen to the words of Jesus and fill your heart with a passion for the message of the cross. Be like Paul and teach others about blessed hope of Jesus' coming, the resurrection, heaven, and great comfort in salvation!



# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER EIGHT: *Words of Hope From The Apostle Peter*

Introduction: Christ came to this earth, not as a king or with great wealth, but as a humble child. He appears in the New Testament coming as the son of young woman and a poor carpenter. He was born in a stable on the outskirts of Bethlehem. They wrapped him up in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger. He was born under the most humble circumstances but He is greater than any earthly king! Even though he came into this world as a sign of triumph, he entered a world without hope. With his lowly birth He brought the greatest hope to a world of sinners. This is a hope that will never be surpassed. And this is a hope that we can build upon. Peter experienced this first hand. I want to share with you the words of Peter about the hope of everlasting life. Let's study together...

#### Discussion:

#### **I. *The Hope of a Christian is a Living Hope***

I **Peter 1:3** says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

#### **II. *The Hope of a Christian is a Focused Hope***

I **Peter 1:13** says, "Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

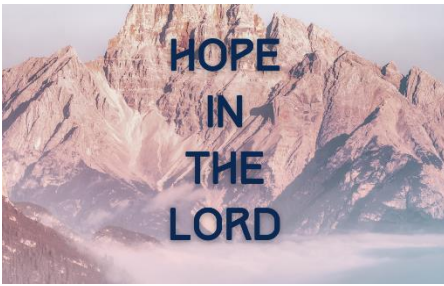
#### **III. *The Hope of a Christian is a Secure Hope***

I **Peter 1:20-21** says, "He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God."

#### **IV. *The Hope of a Christian is a Challenging Hope***

I **Peter 3:15-16** says, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed."

Conclusion: There is a great difference between being hopeful and hopeless. This great gap between being hopeful and hopeless has been bridged! Jesus died so that you might be able to be full of hope. He paid a huge price for you to have this hope. Accept His loving sacrifice. Rejoice in the hope of salvation. Peter found this hope and he challenges you to find it as well. And if you have lost sight of this hope in your walk here on earth, do what Peter did. Reach out and take Jesus' hand before it's too late. Don't sink! Come to Jesus and accept this hope now!



# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER NINE: *The Hope of Glory*

Introduction: One of my favorite devotional songs is entitled, “My Only Hope is You.” I can’t help but think of **Colossians 1:24-29**. This reminds us that the blessing of “Christ in you” can be called “the hope of glory.” What does that mean? It is a REAL hope. Not a new hope. Not a false hope. It is our ONLY hope. Paul identifies that to live without Christ is to die without hope! There is no comfort at death except the sure hope of heaven for those who are saved. The word “hope” is a Greek word that means “confidence.” How can we have a confident hope? Let’s study together...

#### Discussion:

#### **I. The Saving Hope of a Christian**

*“For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance” (Romans 8:24-25).*

#### **II. The Good Hope of a Christian**

*“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work” (II Thessalonians 2:16-17).*

#### **III. The Blessed Hope of a Christian**

*“...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).*

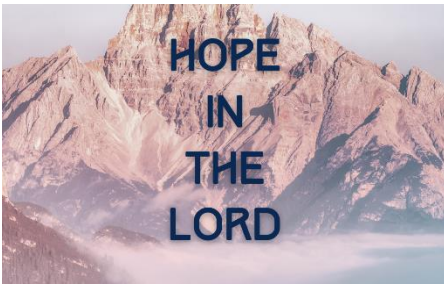
#### **IV. The Living Hope of a Christian**

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (I Peter 1:3).*

#### **V. The Purifying Hope of a Christian**

*“And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure” (I John 3:3).*

Conclusion: Our Christian hope is a firm assurance regarding things that are unseen and unclear (**Hebrews 11:1-7**). Only a child of God can have the one true hope! **Ephesians 2:12-13** says, “...at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” Do you have hope? Are you sharing that hope with others? We need to receive it and release it into the lives of others.



# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

### CHAPTER TEN: *A Life Rooted in Hope*

Introduction: Hope is defined as an earnest expectation, or something that we are longing for and waiting for. We all search for things in life, but HOPE might be what we search for most. When we're worn down, worn out and wondering if we're going to make it—what we are looking for is a hope that will be with us and pull us forward. We put our hope in a lot of different things, Emil Brunner, a Swiss theologian in the early 1900s once said, “*What oxygen is to the lungs, such is hope to the meaning of life.*” That’s what we need... we build our faith on hope! Remember how the Hebrew writer said in **Hebrews 1:1** that: “*faith the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*” What is this hope mentioned 151x in the Bible? Let’s study together...

#### Discussion:

#### **I. What Is Our Hope?**

- A. We can have hope of a heavenly reward (**Matthew 6:19-20, Colossians 1:5**).
- B. We can have hope of resurrection (**Acts 23:6, I Corinthians 15**).
- C. We can have hope in the gospel (**Acts 28:20, Colossians 1:5, 23**).
- D. We can have hope of eternal life (**Titus 1:2, 3:7**).
- E. We can have hope of salvation (**Romans 8:24-25, I Thessalonians 5:8**).
- F. We can have hope in our calling (**Ephesians 1:18, 4:4**).

#### **II. What Is The Nature of This Hope?**

- A. Our hope is glorious (**Colossians 1:27**).
- B. Our hope is good (**II Thessalonians 2:16**).
- C. Our hope is blessed (**Titus 2:13**).
- D. Our hope is steadfast and sure (**Hebrews 6:19**).
- E. Our hope is joyful (**Hebrews 3:6**).
- F. Our hope is living (**I Peter 1:3**).

#### **III. Why Do People Reject This Hope?**

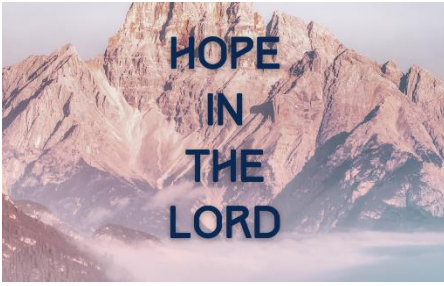
- A. Sinful living starts with a desire to sin (**James 1:15**).
- B. Sinful living continues to allow us to drift (**Isaiah 53:6**).
- C. Sinful living offers a very deceptive outcome (**I Corinthians 6:9**). – temporary joy!
- D. Sinful living promises more than it can deliver (**Romans 6:6**). – Not free, but enslaved
- E. Sinful living is always destructive (**Romans 5:12**). – Destroys all flesh.
- F. Sinful living leads to eternal death (**Romans 3:23, 6:23**).

#### **IV. How Can This Hope Transform Our Lives?**

- A. Hope will challenge you to pursue the fruit of the spirit (**Galatians 5:19-23**).
- B. Hope will remove your condemnation (**Romans 8:1**).
- C. Hope will cleanse you from your sins (**I John 1:9-10**).
- D. Hope will cover a multitude of sins (**Hebrews 10:14**).
- E. Hope will reverse your condition (**Romans 5:9**).
- F. Hope will compel you to tell others (**I Peter 3:15**).

Conclusion: Our future hope is a present day reality (**Psalms 145:15**). What was Paul’s prayer? He said, “*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit*” (**Romans 15:13**). Do you see that? Hope can fill us with joy... peace... and power!





# BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

## *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

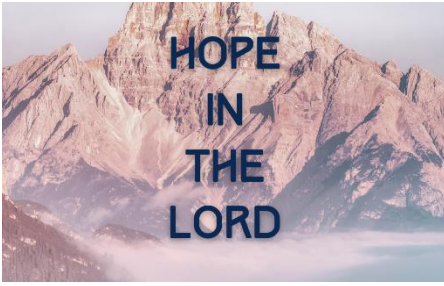
### CHAPTER ELEVEN: *Our Hope of Salvation*

Introduction: We need hope today! There is no doubt in my mind that this topic is one of the most neglected in our teaching and preaching today. In this lesson, I want us to take a close look at the subject of hope and why we need hope for the future. Let's study together. . .

#### Discussion:

- I. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Rock – A Solid Foundation***  
Psalm 62:2 - "He only is my **rock** and my salvation." V.7 - "**rock** of my strength."  
Psalm 89:26 - "You are my Father, my God and the **rock** of my salvation."
- II. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Wall – A Permanent Shelter & Defense***  
Isaiah 26:1 - "We have a strong city; God will appoint salvation for **walls** and **bulwarks**."  
Isaiah 60:18 - "you will call your **walls** 'salvation' and your gates 'praise.'"
- III. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Helmet – A Protection Against Mental/Spiritual Attack***  
Isaiah 59:17 - "Christ put on righteousness as a breastplate, and the **helmet** of salvation upon His head ..."  
Ephesians 6:17 & I Thessalonians 5:8 speaks of the "helmet of salvation."
- IV. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Shield – A Protection Against Doubt & Fear***  
II Samuel 22:36 - "You have also given me the **shield** of Your salvation; Your gentleness has made me great."  
Psalm 18:35 - "You have given me the **shield** of your salvation:"
- V. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Horn – A Proclamation of God's Power & Spiritual Blessings***  
II Samuel 22:3 - "... The **horn** of my salvation and my high tower"  
Psalm 18:2 - God is "the **horn** of my salvation, my stronghold"
- VI. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to Clothes – A Revelation of Spiritual Beauty***  
Psalm 79:9 - salvation provides the proper "covering" for "our sins"  
Psalm 132:16 - "I will also **clothe** her priests with salvation and her saints will shout aloud for joy."
- VII. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Lamp – A Provision of Light & Guidance***  
Psalm 27:1 - "He is my **light** and my salvation."  
Psalm 79:9 - salvation is seen as "a **lamp** that burns" brightly.
- VIII. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Cup – A Provision of Fellowship***  
Psalm 116:13 - "I will take the **cup** of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord."  
John 4:13-14 - Jesus offers the women an opportunity to drink
- XI. ***Our Hope of Salvation is Compared to a Well – A Provision of Refreshment***  
Isaiah 12:3 - "Therefore with joy you will draw water out of the **wells** of salvation."  
The invitations of Isaiah 55:1 and Revelation 22:17 are for all who are thirsty.

Conclusion: Our future hope is a present day reality (Psalm 145:15). I have no doubt that if we were to use one million metaphors we could never exhaust the endless worth of the hope of our salvation. It is priceless. It is an unspeakable, unimaginable, and nearly immeasurable blessing because of God's amazing grace and abounding love. Do you need the hope of salvation? Look to Jesus! There is hope for the future because of what Jesus did on the cross for you. Will you accept Jesus as your sacrifice? Will you seek to serve Him and live for Him?



## BIBLE STUDY GUIDE ON BIBLICAL HOPE

### *Publication of Ray Reynolds Rap*

#### CHAPTER TWELVE: *The Secret of Hope*

Introduction: Every family has their family secrets. Every cook has their own “secret ingredients.” And our brother in Christ, the apostle Paul, has just given away the family secret! Maybe you didn’t know it was there. But it is! Paul reveals the secret to living a life of Christian assurance. The secret is found in **Romans 8:28**. This one verse has given comfort to millions of people. As we study together today, I want us to see what this verse is so special. Let’s study together...

#### Discussion:

- I. ***This Great Hope Is Confidential***  
*And we know*
- II. ***This Great Hope Is Comprehensive***  
*That all things*
- III. ***This Great Hope Is Constructive***  
*Work together for good*
- IV. ***This Great Hope Is Cooperative***  
*To those who love God*
- V. ***This Great Hope Is Conditional***  
*To those who are the called*
- VI. ***This Great Hope Is Consistent***  
*According to His purpose*

Conclusion: In the eighth chapter of the book of Romans the apostle Paul pens, in my opinion, one of the greatest chapters in all of the Bible. Paul has addressed the freedom we have from sin, and that we each have the personal indwelling of God’s Holy Spirit, which identifies our spiritual adoption and confirms our eternal destiny. Then, he says the words we have just studied. This is a message of hope that Paul wants every person to accept. We have a family in the family of God. Together as a family we enjoy our spiritual secrets, but just like a good recipe, it’s only good when it is shared with others. God has a way of working all things together for our good when we love Him and long to see Him glorified through our lives. We need to find ways to share this secret. Don’t be afraid to share this message and bring assurance to someone else. Isn’t God wonderful? Don’t you enjoy being a Christian? Do you need strength or comfort? Do you need salvation?