

Seven Reasons For One Hope

I Pet. 3:15

A Christian Is Unique In The World For Many Reasons

- Relational → God, others who are saved.
- Values and priorities → does not love this world.
- Standard and guide → not the morals and mores of a sin sick society, but the word of God.
- Mission → to strive for the salvation of self and others.
- Understanding → the temporary nature of earthly existence.
- Ultimate hope → of an eternal home with God after this life is over

1 Peter 3:15

- 1 Peter 3:15 → But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

The Nature of Hope

- II Thess. 2:16 → Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace,
- Titus 2:13 → looking for the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;
- I Pet. 1:3 → Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy begat us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- Heb. 7:19 → (for the law made nothing perfect), and a bringing in thereupon of a better hope, through which we draw nigh unto God.
- Eph. 4:4 → *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as also ye were called in one hope of your calling;

The One Hope Is Not

- Material things:
 - If I have made gold my hope, or have said to the fine gold, *Thou art* my confidence; (Job 31:24).
- Eternal existence on this present earth:
 - the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. (II Pet. 3:10)
- Of a “rapture”:
 - And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. (Acts 24:15)
- A second chance after death:
 - And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: (Heb. 9:27)

The One Hope Is...

- Revealed by the gospel.
 - Col. 1:23 → “the hope of the gospel”
- Future and presently unseen.
 - Rom. 8:24-25 → “hope that is seen is not hope”
- Founded upon faith.
 - Heb. 11:1 → “faith is the substance of things hoped for”
- Presently abiding (remaining)
 - I Cor. 13:13 → now abideth faith, hope , love...
- Reserved in heaven.
 - Col. 1:5 → “hope which is laid up for you in heaven”
- Eternal life.
 - Titus 1:2 → “in hope of eternal life...”

Seven Reasons For One Hope...

- ***The grace of God.***
 - Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, (II Thess. 2:16)
- ***The gift of Jesus Christ.***
 - Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Savior, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope; (I Tim. 1:1; Eph. 2:12-13)
- ***The absolute faithfulness of God.***
 - 17 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, 18 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. (Heb. 6:17-18)

Seven Reasons For One Hope

- ***Obedience to the gospel of Christ.***
 - 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; (Heb. 5:8-9)
- ***Faithfulness to God.***
 - 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister. (Col. 1:22-23)

Seven Reasons For One Hope

- *The promises of God.*
 - This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:11)
 - 8 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. (Jn. 5:28-29)
 - 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: (Matt. 25:34)

Seven Reasons For One Hope

- *The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*
 - 3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, (I Pet. 1:3-4; cf. I Cor. 15:20; Rom. 1:3-4; 6:3-4; 17-18; Acts 17:30-31)