

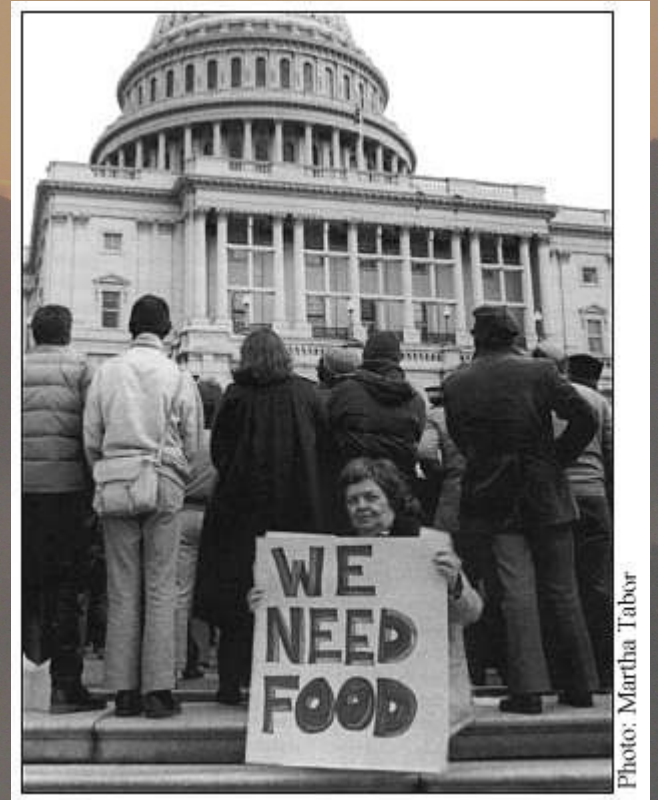


HOPE

**ONE OF THE
PRESENTS THAT
CHRIST GAVE US
FOR CHRISTMAS!**

Many People Need Hope

Many People feel hopeless today.



This First Sunday of Advent we are looking at the hope we have in Christ.

Titus 2:13

Looking for that **blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

This time of year, we celebrate his first advent (coming) While looking for his second advent (coming)...



Let's define "HOPE"

Hope

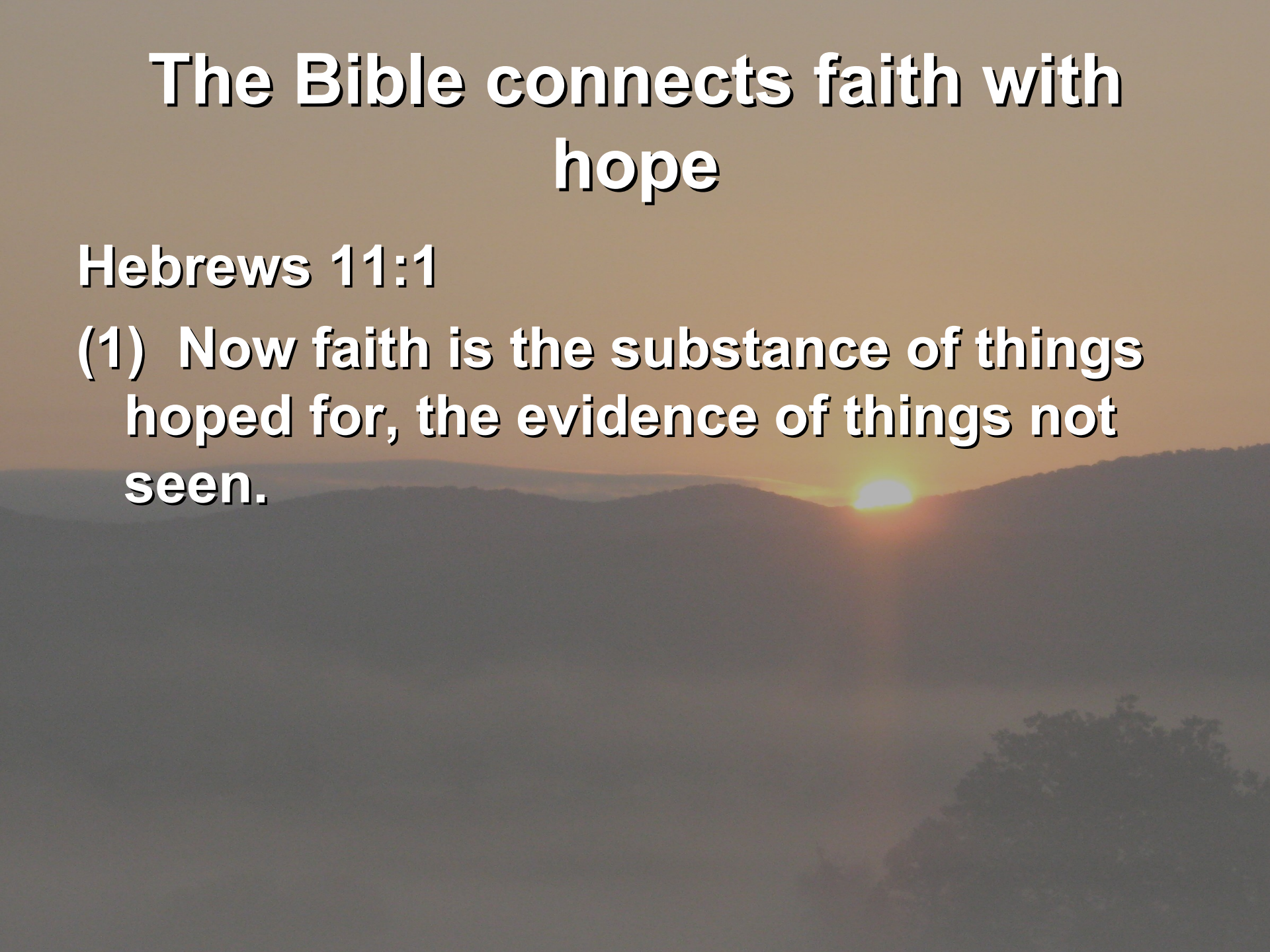
HOPE, n. [L. cupio.]

1. A desire of some good, accompanied with at least a slight expectation of obtaining it, or a belief that it is obtainable. Hope differs from wish and desire in this, that it implies some expectation of obtaining the good desired, or the possibility of possessing it. Hope therefore always gives pleasure or joy; whereas wish and desire may produce or be accompanied with pain and anxiety.

The Bible connects faith with hope

Hebrews 11:1

**(1) Now faith is the substance of things
hoped for, the evidence of things not
seen.**

A background image showing a sunset over a mountain range. The sun is partially obscured by a ridge in the distance, creating a silhouette effect. The sky is a mix of orange and yellow, and the mountains are in shadow.

**In what ways does God give us
Hope**

GRACE

**(2Th 2:16) Now our Lord Jesus Christ
himself, and God, even our Father, who
has loved us, and has given us
everlasting encouragement and good
hope through grace,**

THE GOSPEL

(Col 1:5) For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

(Col 1:23) If you continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which you have heard, and which was preached to every creature who is under heaven; of which I Paul am made a minister;

FAITH

(Rom 5:1) Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

(Rom 5:2) By whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

(Gal 5:5) For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

And again, our text today...

Hebrews 11:1

**(1) Now faith is the substance of things
hoped for, the evidence of things not
seen.**

Through faith, we see what we hope for...

THE WRITTEN WORD

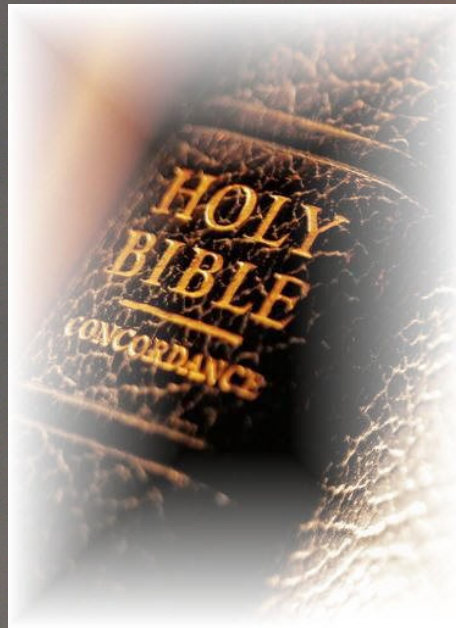
THE BIBLE

(Psalms 119:81)
[Kaph] My soul
faints for your
salvation: but I
hope in your
word.



**The scriptures provide Patience
and comfort to those who are**

**(Rom 15:4) For whatever things were
written before were written for our
learning, that we through patience and
comfort of the scriptures might have
hope.**



THE LIVING WORD

JESUS CHRIST

John 1:1

**(1) In the beginning was the Word, and
the Word was with God, and the Word
was God.**

Luke 2:25-33

- (25) And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Spirit was upon him.
- (26) And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
- (27) And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law,

(28) Then he took him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

(29) Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word:

(30) For my eyes have seen your salvation,

(31) Which you have prepared before the face of all people;

(32) A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

(33) And Joseph and his mother marveled at those things which were spoken of him.

**So God has given us these ways
to obtain hope...**

GRACE

THE GOSPEL

FAITH

THE WRITTEN WORD...

BIBLE

THE

THE LIVING WORD...

CHRIST

JESUS

Once we have hope, what good is it?

It can help us move mountains...

It can provide healing to our hurting souls

It can help us endure hardships

It can ensure us when we have doubts

Psalms 30:5b... weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Where would we be without hope?

On our way to Hell...

**Can you imagine living this life, knowing
beyond a shadow of a doubt that when
you die, you will suffer eternally in
Hell?**

That is pure hopelessness...

**Now can you imagine living this
life without a shadow of a doubt
that when you die you will go to
Heaven?**

That is HOPE!!!

And you can have this hope this morning.

We were all on our way to Hell..

BUT GOD...

Ephesians 2:1-7 NLT

- (1) Once you were dead, doomed forever because of your many sins.**
- (2) You used to live just like the rest of the world, full of sin, obeying Satan, the mighty prince of the power of the air. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.**
- (3) All of us used to live that way, following the passions and desires of our evil nature. We were born with an evil nature, and we were under God's anger just like everyone else.**

- (4) ***But God*** is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so very much,
- (5) that even while we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's special favor that you have been saved!)
- (6) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ, and we are seated with him in the heavenly realms – all because we are one with Christ Jesus.
- (7) And so God can always point to us as examples of the incredible wealth of his favor and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us through Christ Jesus.

There is HOPE for us today...

Jeremiah 17:7

(7) Blessed [is] the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

How much do you Trust the Lord?

Your hope is dependent on your trust.