

GOD'S HOPE

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2 Corinthians 3:7-12 Romans 5:2-5

ABUNDANT LIFE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

2 CORINTHIANS 3:7-12

HOPE is our anchor for tomorrow (2021) and our answer to the questions for today (2020)!

Why do we have HOPE? Why does having Jesus give us hope?

THE NEW TESTAMENT COVENANT COMPLETES THE OLD TESTAMENT COVENANT

2 Corinthians 3:7-8 *Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, fading though it was, will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious?*

JESUS IS OUR CHRISTMAS AND EASTER

2 Corinthians 3:10 *If the ministry that condemns men is glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness!*

2 Corinthians 3:11 *For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!*

WE ARE RICH IN HOPE

2 Corinthians 3:12 Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold

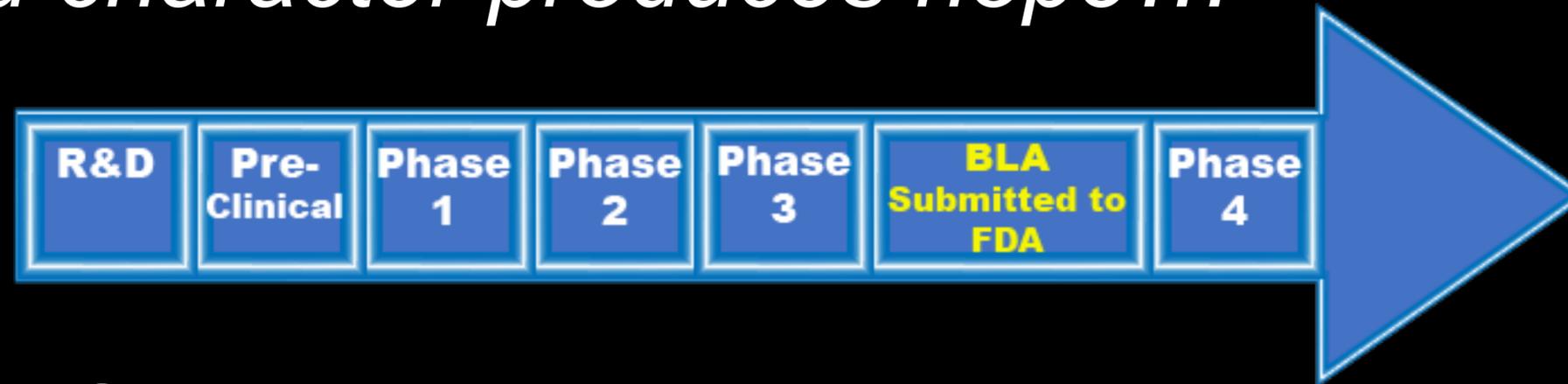
This truth is the fuel that will produce enduring hope.

Zechariah 4:6 Not by (our) might nor by (our) power but by my Spirit says the Lord Almighty.

The Holy Spirit anoints and energizes all of us for the work and service of serving and helping others!

WE ARE APPROVED BY OUR TESTING

Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope...



Romans 5:2-5 ESV *Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*

ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

1 Corinthians 13:13 *...abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love*

The TRUTH of His LIFE and DEATH on the Cross, His resurrection and ascension, and the WORD RELEASES in us HOPE.

I found that I came to a crossroad's moment where joy and sorrow meet, and at that intersection is where I meet God and found hope. The crazy part is that I realized that I had driven by that intersection so many times, how did I miss seeing God standing on the corner?

THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US STRENGTH TO MAINTAIN AND KEEP UP OUR HOPE-FULL-NESS

Romans 15:13 *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

The best predictor of future behavior is past behaviors.

WE KNOW OUR GOD IS ALWAYS THE SAME WE ALWAYS HAVE HOPE

Hebrews 13:8-9 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. So do not be attracted by strange, new ideas. Your spiritual strength comes from God's special favor, not from ceremonial rules about food, which don't help those who follow them.*

WE HAVE ALL THE RESOURCES OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

John 14:12-13 *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.*

WE HAVE HOPE! GREAT IS THE LORD'S FAITHFULNESS!

Lamentations 3:19-23 I remember my affection and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and **therefore I have hope**: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed for his compassion never fail. **They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.**

