

The Gifts of Christmas

The Gift of Hope

Luke 2:8-14 (NKJV) Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

Advent = coming or arrival

Wordly hope hinges on our ability to control.

What are you waiting and hoping for in your life?

1. Hope Past

Isaiah 7:14 (NIV) *“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”*

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace”.*

Hebrews 11:1 (NIV) *“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”*

2. Hope Present

Luke 1:26–38 (NIV)

Hebrews 6:19 (NIV) *“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.”*

3. Hope Future

Romans 8:24 (NIV) *“For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently”*

What are three things you can do today to focus on praise, gratitude and worship as you patiently wait on God?

This part is just for the final slide - not in bulletin

May the Lord Bless you and Keep you

May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

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.

I Bless you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.