

Hope Is Born - Pt 2

Home Has A Name

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RECAP:

1. Introduction

After decades of pastoral ministry, two forces consistently derail believers:

- Offense – shuts the heart down
- Hopelessness – drains the heart dry The enemy is patient and plays the long game with both.

2. The First Danger: Offense

- Jesus said offense would mark the last days.

10 And then many will be offended will betray one another and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound the love of many will grow cold.

—Matthew 24:10-12

- Summary: Offense → betrayal → hatred → deception → cold love.
- A hardened heart cannot hear God or love others well.

3. The Second Danger: Hopelessness

Hope deferred makes the heart sick but when the desire comes it is a tree of life.

—Proverbs 13:12

- “Deferred” Defined: Delayed, postponed, drawn out, or kept waiting beyond the hoped for time.

- Heart sickness = the quiet collapse of inward expectation.
- It rarely happens suddenly; it erodes the soul over time.

A. Signs of Hope Deferred

(Think: dashboard warning lights)

1. Emotional fatigue no amount of sleep can fix
The weariness is in the soul not the body.
2. Loss of vision for the future
Dreams that once felt possible now feel distant or unrealistic.
3. Shrinking ability to believe God
Faith that used to feel natural now feels fragile and effortful.
4. Growing cynicism skepticism and self-protection
The heart guards itself instead of expecting God to move.
5. Unbelief shaping prayer worship and obedience
Everything becomes muted; prayers shrink and worship cools.
6. Loss of spiritual resilience
Small trials feel large because hope's inner strength has weakened.

B. Worldly Hope vs. Biblical Hope

1. Worldly Hope

- Based on circumstances changing.
- Rises and falls with what we see.
- When outcomes disappoint us the heart grows sick.
- This hope is fragile because it depends on life "turning in our favor."

2. Biblical Hope

- Confident expectation of good based on the unchanging character of God.
- Rooted in who God is not in how life feels.
- Example: Job's Hope

Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away Blessed be the name of the Lord. 22 In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

—Job 1:21-22

- Job's hope remained anchored in God's character, not circumstances.

C. The Power of Focus

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses... fixing our eyes on Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

—Hebrews 12:1-2

- Biblical “fixing” means:
 1. Turning your gaze away from everything else
 2. Removing all competing objects of focus
 3. Deliberately aiming attention on one Person
 4. Sustained undivided focus
 5. Mentally setting your hopes and trust on Him

4. Where We're Going Next

Over the coming weeks we will FIX our eyes on three truths:

1. Hope Has a Name
2. Hope that Redeems
3. Hope in the Coming Advent

Hope Has a Name

Names are significant: Calvin: bald; Kennedy: misshapen head; Portia: pig; Cameron: crooked nose

And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son and shall call His name Jesus.

—Luke 1:31

(The Christmas story is not about a baby only. It is about the arrival of Hope Himself.)

A. Meaning of the Name “Jesus”

The name Jesus comes from the Hebrew Yeshua meaning “YHWH saves” or “YHWH is salvation.”

B. YHWH is the name God revealed to Moses, known at the Tetragrammaton meaning:

1. I Am
2. I am the One who is
3. I will be who I will be
4. The One who exists, who remains, who is faithful

C. In John 8:58 Jesus declares His deity by saying “before Abraham was I am...”

D. His name declares why He came and the character and nature of God:

1. His name is His mission.

- God Himself chose the name because it declares exactly why He came...to save.

And she will bring forth a Son and you shall call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins.

—Matthew 1:21

2. Law Reveals / Conscience testifies

“When you say ‘Jesus’ you are saying ‘Savior.’”

4. His name reveals the heart of God.

- Jesus’ name shows that God’s intention was not to merely to assist humanity but to deliver humanity.
- John 1 “Word Became Flesh...”
- *“When we couldn’t reach Him, His heart reached for us.”*

5. His name fulfills prophecy and divine pattern.

- Joshua and Jesus are the same name by design: Both names mean “The Lord saves.”

Joshua (Yehoshua) and Jesus (Yeshua) share the same saving meaning pointing to God’s redemptive initiative.

- Joshua led God’s people from wandering into their promised inheritance. He brought Israel out of the wilderness and into possession of the land.
Jesus leads believers out of spiritual death and wandering into the true and eternal inheritance of God’s Kingdom.
- Joshua defeated the enemies of God’s people. He subdued the hostile powers in Canaan.
Jesus conquers the greater enemies of sin and death.
- Joshua brought rest to God’s people. Through him the Lord gave Israel rest in the land.
Jesus gives the ultimate rest for the soul and the coming rest in the age to come
- Joshua interceded fought and represented the people. He stood on their behalf in battle and in leadership.
Jesus is our great High Priest who intercedes continually and wins every battle for us.
- “Joshua conquered cities—*Jesus conquers sin and death.*”

6. His name is the exclusive source of salvation.

- Hope is born because salvation is tied to a name with divine authority.

Nor is there salvation in any other for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

—*Acts 4:12*

7. Religious Pluralism: All religions provide valid paths vs.
8. Exclusivism: Only Jesus
9. “*Authority rests on Him and nowhere else.*”

Conclusion

- These truths embodied in the name of Jesus are an anchor for us. True Hope anchors us:

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both

sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil.

—Hebrews 6:19

1. Hope steadies us when circumstances shake us.

- It keeps us from being tossed by fear, anxiety or disappointment.

Hope grabs onto God's unchanging character when everything around us changes.

2. Hope roots us in God's promises, not our emotions.

- Our feelings rise and fall, but the promise of God does not.
- Hope ties our inner life to what God has spoken, not how we feel in the moment.

3. Hope keeps us from drifting spiritually.

- Just like an anchor holds a boat in place, hope holds us firm in obedience, prayer, Scripture, and faithfulness.

4. Hope connects us to the presence of Jesus.

- Hebrews 6:19 says hope "enters the Presence behind the veil."
- Our hope is anchored in a living Person, the risen Christ, not an idea, mood or wish.

5. Hope strengthens endurance in trials.

- Hope looks past temporary pain and sees eternal glory (2 Corinthians 4:17).
- It gives strength to keep going and not give up.

6. Hope lifts our eyes toward the future God is preparing.

- It reminds us that suffering is not the final word. God is redeeming stories, restoring broken things, and preparing a world where all things are made right.

7. Hope protects our heart from despair.

- When disappointment or delay comes, hope guards the soul from bitterness, cynicism or unbelief.

8. Hope pulls the weight of heaven into our present.

- Hope is not escapism, it is a down-payment of future glory.
- It allows us to live today with the joy, courage, and peace of the coming Kingdom.

9. Hope assures us our labor is not in vain.

- Every prayer, every act of obedience, every sacrifice is seen and rewarded (1 Corinthians 15:58).
- Hope stabilizes us with purpose.

10. Hope reminds us that God finishes what He starts.

- He is the Author and Finisher of our faith. This Hope anchors us in His faithfulness when our strength fails.

The Result of Hope:

Hope deferred makes the heart sick but when the desire comes it is a tree of life.

—Proverbs 13:12

(Prov. 13:12 says it becomes a tree of life for us/stepping back in to the life presence of Eden)

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen.

—Hebrews 11:1

Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine and does them I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock 25 and the rain descended the floods came and the winds blew and beat on that house and it did not fall

for it was founded on the rock.

—Matthew 7:24-25