

The background of the image is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, white stars. A single, bright star in the upper left quadrant emits a powerful, vertical beam of white light that extends down towards the bottom of the frame. At the base of this beam, the silhouettes of dark, layered mountain ranges are visible against the lighter sky. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

^athrill hope^{of}




Throw Me A Line!

Proverbs 23:17,18





What is hope?

- תְּקוּהָה literally a cord
- Expectancy, Hope
- 34X OT - hope 23x, expectation 9x, line 2x
- Joshua – 2x – ‘scarlet line’
- Job 13x – hope for hopeless!
- Proverbs 8x – ‘all is vanity’ – HOPE!



HOPE:
CONFIDENT EXPECTATION
UNFULFILLED CERTAINTY!

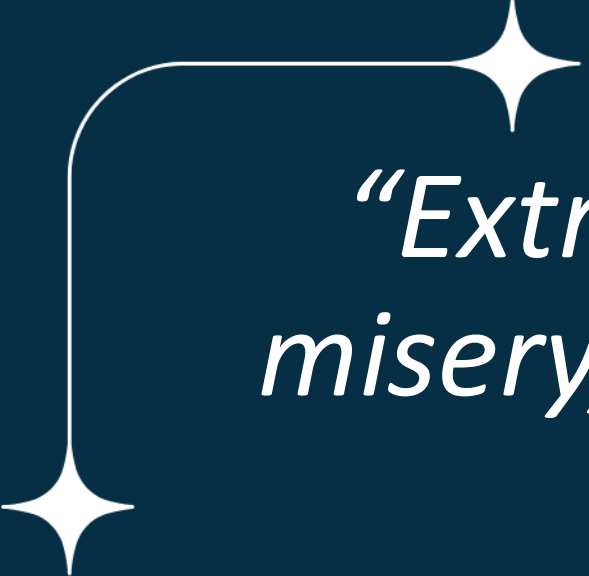




*“Optimism is a wish without warrant;
Christian hope is a certainty, guaranteed
by God Himself.”*

J. I. Packer





“Extreme hopes are born of extreme misery, and in such a world hopes could only be irrational.”


Bertrand Russell


HOPELESS END
OR
ENDLESS HOPE







*Holes in my life cannot be filled
by sight – only by hope!*






17 Do not let your heart envy sinners,
but live in the fear of the LORD always.






18 Surely there is a future,
and your hope will not be cut off.





Jealous – no way!

- ‘envy’ – the world
- 1 John 2:15,16
- Psalm 1 – walk, stand, sit
- What do they have? What will they have?



“Some boast in chariots and some in horses,
But we will boast in the name of the LORD,
our God.” Psalm 20:7







*“My hope does not rest in the
affairs of this world. It rests in
Christ who is coming again.”*


Billy Graham






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Zealous - all day!

- Job 13x – man without hope – hopeful!
- ‘always’ is ‘all day’ or ‘all time’
- Faithfulness one day? Everyday!
- ‘fear of the LORD’ – Wisdom
- Jesus is the ‘Word’




“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.” Prov 1:7







Hope does not depend on hoping!






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Religious – someday? somehow?

- ‘future’ – by whose hand?
- ‘future’ – ending point – “It is appointed...”
- Religion is incapable of fixing enough
- Faith is a ‘who’ NOT a ‘do’
- Hope is only in Christ!



“Remember that you were at that time
separate from Christ, excluded from the
commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the
covenants of promise, having no hope and
without God in the world.” Eph 2:12







*“Never be afraid to trust an
unknown future to a known God.”*


Corrie Ten Boom






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Righteous – His way!


- He is our lifeline – scarlet thread
- He is our confidence – expectation
- He cannot be dismissed or defeated!
- His way is ONLY by faith - John 14:6
- His way is the ONLY way – Acts 4:12



*“Hope means hoping when things are
hopeless, or it is no virtue at all... As long
as matters are really hopeful, hope is
mere flattery or platitude; it is only when
everything is hopeless that hope begins
to be a strength.”*

G. K Chesterton





“This hope we have as an anchor of the soul,
a hope both sure and steadfast”

Heb 6:19



The background of the image is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, white stars. A bright star in the upper left quadrant emits a thick, white beam of light that extends downwards, illuminating the mountain range below. The mountains are depicted in dark, layered silhouettes, creating a sense of depth. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

^athrill hope^{of}