



**Sermon Title** - The Only Anchor

**Main Point** - God's promise, character, and work at the cross give us certainty to hold fast to our hope in Jesus as the only anchor for our soul.

What you **hold fast** to is what you **hope** in.

The outcome of your hope is dependent on the object of your hope.

Hebrews 6:11-12

*And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

Heb. 6:17-18

*So when **God desired** to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by 2 unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, **we** who have fled for refuge **might have strong encouragement** to hold fast to the hope set before us.*

#1 - God's Promised Word

Heb. 6:13-14

*For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you."*

Gen. 22:16-18

*... "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your*

*offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his[d] enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”*

Gen. 1:28

*And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”*

Heb. 6:15

*And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.*

#2 - God's Personal Character

Heb. 6:16-18

*For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.*

Heb. 13:8

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

Rev. 2:25

*Only hold fast what you have until I come.*

Rev. 3:11

*I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.*

#3 - God's Perfect Son

Heb. 6:19-20

*We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.*

2 Cor. 1:18-22

*As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been Yes and No. For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.*

Sure = Security / Certainty - True today  
Steadfast = Stability / Permanence - True tomorrow

Hold Fast to this hope - there is no other anchor for your soul!

**#1 - Identity & Reject False Hopes:** In your suffering, temptation, anxiety, weariness and pain, what are you tempted to hold fast to instead of Jesus for hope? Where do you tend to 'flee for refuge?'

Diagnostic questions:

- When you're worried or anxious, what do you think or do to try and calm & reassure yourself?
- When things are chaotic or out of control, how do you handle it? cope?
- When you lose something, what do you reach for to soothe or replace?
- What makes you feel most angry or fearful? (revealing your hope / security is being threatened)
- What makes you feel settled? secure? Like all is well & life is how it's supposed to be.
- When life is stressful or isn't going according to plan, what do you wish was different? More of something? Less of something?
- IF ONLY \_\_\_\_\_

**#2 - Drill Down into Real Hope** - Reinforce why Jesus is the better hope. God's promise, character, and work at the cross are certain and the only true anchor for our soul. Stake your life on Him!



**#3 - Take Strong Encouragement!** - Be assured in your uncertainty (SURE / FAITH), be made earnest in your endurance (STEADFAST / PATIENCE), and be comforted in your suffering that He's faithfully holding on to you.

Matt. 12:11

*He said to them, "Which one of you who has a sheep, if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not take hold of it and lift it out?"*

John 10:28-29

*I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me,<sup>[a]</sup> is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.*

Heb. 1:3

*He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...*

Psalms 63:8

*My soul clings to you;  
your right hand upholds me.*