

Heavenly Hope
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Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God. Psalm 146:5

Hope is quite an elusive word. You can hope your favorite sports team wins the World Series. Let's go St. Louis Cardinals. That would be my desire joined by all of Cardinal Nation. We do not ground this hope in anything but a desired fulfillment or belief.

Earthly Confidence

We fill earthly hope with present hurts and uncertainty over what the future holds. The surrounding problems are clear to the naked eye. There is poverty, hunger and disease. Yet, we at times catch a glimpse of God in humanity and we see the God-designed potential to generate something better, greater. So we look at the future with the hope-filled expectation that mankind will evolve. There is only one problem - we contaminate mankind with sin.

Heavenly Hope

What makes Christian hope different is the foundation of that hope. We do not base Christian hope on the advances of humanity; it integrates its foundation with God's redemptive acts. This hope sees past the failures of humanity and rests on the past, present, and future promises of God. As the Hebrew word for hope would remind us, we "wait or look with eager expectation" on what God has in store for our future.

Dear Lord,

Lord, help us to understand you are our hope. Drown out all the other voices promising hope. From generation to generation you have been the hope for hopeless. Lead us to your outstretched scarred hands. Fill us up with hope and give us a tangible reminder today that hope is an unbreakable spiritual lifeline. Father, you know those things in our hearts which trouble us. Guide us to lay those things before your altar and give them over to you. Empower us to trust them to you. You can do more than we could ever guess, imagine or request in our wildest dreams. God, you are our hope and we trust you. In Jesus' Name. Amen.