

## Edward Christian Church "Hope -The Anchor of Your Soul" -pt 2

What an **Anchor** is to a **Ship**, **Hope** is to the **Soul**. They both **Stabilize - Hold Steady** amidst the **Storms** in life. Every Christian has been given a **Secure Anchor** in the **Person of Christ...**

*"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." -Hebrews 6:19*

### What Is CULTURAL Hope versus CHRISTIAN Hope?

**Cultural hope** is riddled through/ through w- **problems** of our **changing** values, but **Christian hope** is woven through/ through w- the **Promises** of our **Unchanging God**. *"God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak/ then not act? Does he promise/ not fulfill?" -Num 23:19*

#### Cultural Hope Is Changeable

- **Hope in Society's Values**

**PROBLEM:** Your sense of **right** and **wrong** can slowly change **overtime**. *Social standards change as cultures change.*

- **Hope in Legal Justice**

**PROBLEM:** Your sense of **justice** will **not** always be **upheld**. In legal courts, *the justice system is not always just.*

- **Hope in People's Promises**

**PROBLEM:** Your **faith** can be **fractured** when people **break their promises**. People you look up to can let you down.

- **Hope in an Organization's Integrity/ Tightness**

**PROBLEM:** Your faith in any organization (even a church or ministry) can be destroyed as a result of **unrighteous behavior**—not doing what is right in God's sight—a **lack of integrity**.

- **Hope in your education for Wisdom/Understanding**

**PROBLEM:** Your education and the educational system do **not guarantee wisdom and understanding**. Wisdom is knowing how to apply your knowledge with godly insight.

- **Hope in Your Physical Abilities**

**PROBLEM:** Your physical body deteriorates with the passage of time so that you are **physically unable** to do all that you previously could do. Your body could become permanently disabled because of an accident or unexpected illness.

- **Hope in your Own Financial Provision**

**PROBLEM:** Your plans can be **financially shattered** because of an economic or personal failure or crisis.

- **Hope in Your Plans for the Future**

**PROBLEM:** Your **personal plans** for the future may be **unfulfilled**, for at any time your life could be cut short.

#### Christian Hope Is Unchangeable

- **Hope in God's Unchanging Values**

**PROMISE:** *"All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal.... Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble." -Ps 119:160-65*

- **Hope in God's Unchanging Justice**

**PROMISE:** *"He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he." -Deuteronomy 32:4*

- **Hope in God's Unchanging Promises**

**PROMISE:** *"If we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself." -2 Timothy 2:13*

- **Hope in God's Unchanging Integrity/ Righteousness**

**PROMISE:** *"Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. O LORD, you preserve both man and beast." -Psa 36:5-6*

- **Hope in God's Unchanging Wisdom/Understanding**

**PROMISE:** *"He made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding." -Jeremiah 51:15*

- **Hope in God's Unchanging Abilities**

**PROMISE:** *"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." -2 Cor 9:8*

- **Hope in God's Unchanging Financial Provision**

**PROMISE:** *"Command those who are rich in present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us w- everything for our enjoyment." -1 Tim 6:17*

- **Hope in God's Plans for Your Future**

**PROMISE:** *"So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable... it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body." -1 Cor 15:42, 44*

Question: