

A night sky filled with stars, with a silhouette of a tree in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the sky.

*“It is often in the darkest night that
you see the brightest stars”*

Biblical Hope

1. Biblical hope is not optimism or because you are naïve
2. Biblical Hope is not based on circumstance
3. Jesus' death and resurrection bought about a living hope
4. The 'Elpis' or Hope of Glory is in fact a person
5. This Hope is not just for humans... it's for the WHOLE universe
6. Christian Hope looks back to the risen Jesus in order to look forward to His return

God's Response [the world]

Revelation 21 New International Version (NIV)

A New Heaven and a New Earth

21 Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,”[a] for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’[b] or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

God's Response [the individual]

1 Kings 19 New International Version (NIV)

3 Elijah was afraid[a] and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, 4 while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 5 Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." 6 He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

7 The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." 8 So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. 9 There he went into a cave and spent the night.

Let's Get Practical



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This is your gentle reminder that one time in the Bible Elijah was like "God, I'm so mad! I want to die!" so God said "Here's some food. Why don't you have a nap?" So Elijah slept, ate, & decided things weren't so bad. Never underestimate the spiritual power of a nap & a snack.

1. Look Up

Psalm 121 New International Version (NIV)

A song of ascents.

1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?

2 My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

2. Stay In Close

2 Corinthians 1:3 New International Version (NIV)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

3. Be Real

“The frequent attempt to conceal mental pain increases the burden: it is easier to say “My tooth is aching” than to say “My heart is broken.”

— C.S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain

4. *Reach Out*

“Do you know what hurts so very much? It's love. Love is the strongest force in the world, and when it is blocked that means pain. There are two things we can do when this happens. We can kill that love so that it stops hurting. But then of course part of us dies, too. Or we can ask God to open up another route for that love to travel.” — **Corrie Ten Boom**, *The Hiding Place*

We Have This Hope

Hebrews 6:18-20a New Living Translation (NLT)

18 ... God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. 19 This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary. 20 Jesus has already gone in there for us.