

# THE THRILL OF HOPE

## *Hope in the Messiah*

- Bumper
- Christmas time. It builds excitement and anticipation. People have countdowns going lights are popping up and it's an exciting time. There is a sense of thrill and excitement in the air.
- But this Christmas seems to be a little bit different doesn't it? All the thrill and excitement seem to be met with an opposition this year.
  - o Can we gather or no, Masked or unmasked, will I get someone sick, or will someone get me sick?
  - o There is confusion and uncertainty, and if we were being honest our hope in things being the same is lacking.
    - Hope is a sense of confidence expectation and trust
- I think this year shows us a better glimpse into the spiritual world though.
- We typically hope in the normal Christmas things, we have our traditions and they never change, and we know those things are going to happen. We have that confidence, expectation, and trust that they will happen
  - o But this year our hope is shaken, and we don't know if that will be the case.
- My main thought tonight is this: Do we have hope in the Messiah or is our hope shaken?
- This past month in our life groups we have been walking through this series the thrill of hope.
  - o Hope in the coming of the messiah
    - Looked at some prophecies and promises that were given to us about this Messiah
    - And how our hope is in a person not a dream
  - o Hope in the promise of the messiah
    - Looked at Simeon and how received hope that the promise had arrived
    - He was alert and looking
  - o Hope in the promises from the messiah
    - What has he promised us? He gives us exactly what we need and desire, but it doesn't always look like what we thought we wanted.
  - o And tonight. Do we have hope in the Messiah or is our hope shaken?
- Now in order to understand if we have hope in the Messiah, we must understand who the Messiah is.
  - o What does messiah mean? What is a Messiah? Who really is the Messiah?
    - I want us to enter into these questions, because it's more than just a word or a title. Bryce is going to come and share something he has prepared about the messiah. It's a cool way to enter and so I want us all to lean in. I encourage you to close your eyes and listen carefully as he speaks. And ask God to speak to your heart and to begin to create hope in your life about the messiah and really enter in allow what Bryce says to come to life.
      - Bryce (5min) (see bottom of doc)
  - o It couldn't be that simple of an entry, that way for the Messiah for the anointed one

- This little baby that came from humble beginnings grew up to be a perfect sinless spotless lamb that was our sacrifice, and HE IS OUR HOPE! He is our confidence
- Once again, the question is, Do we have hope in the Messiah or is it shaken.
- The great thing about the Messiah being a person is He does not change.
  - Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.
  - Since He does not change our hope and confidence in him should not waiver or change
  - A pandemic, war, culture, time, nothing changes him. He is consistent.
    - We have seen over the past month how the promises of the coming of him, the declaration that he is here, and the promises that he has given us has stayed true
    - So, he will stay true
  - 1 Peter 1:3-5
    - He is still alive and living always has been always will be
    - The inheritance is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading
- Our hope is not pointless
  - 1 Corinthians 15:12-14,19-22
    - If our Messiah stayed dead, then our hope is pointless
    - But our hope in the messiah has brought us life.
- God gives hope and stirs it up through the body.
  - Hebrews 10:19-25
  - Our assurance comes through something that is already paid for
    - If you walk into someone's house that you do not know you always try to be super respectful and you're very cautious about where you go. But when you walk into your parents' house you have full access to the house
  - Vs 23 and we hold fast to our confession, that Christ is our sacrifice
  - And then as the body, we stir each other up to love and good deeds which continue to build confidence.
- Do you have your hope in the messiah or is it shaken?
  - If you have hope preach it
    - If Christ isn't raised from the dead, then our preaching is in vain, but he is so preach. Tell people about Jesus
  - If your hope is fading
    - God will give you confidence
    - Ask him to give it to you and seek it. It is something that has to grow

Something worth hoping in will always be met with opposition

*The Messiah*  
GSM LIVE PRESENTATION

“Messiah.” We Christians use that word a lot. But what does it mean? What is a messiah? Who is *the* messiah? Well, “messiah” simply means “anointed one.” Anointing, in the Old Testament, was when someone would pour oil onto a person or an object as a symbol that that person or thing was chosen for a special purpose. Exodus 30 describes how the Israelites anointed their priests because they had a special purpose and job. So, when the Bible talks about “the messiah” it is talking about a person who has been chosen by God... for a special purpose. The word “Christ” simply means “messiah.” It is the Greek word for “messiah.” **So, when** the Bible talks about Jesus Christ, what it is really saying is “Jesus, God’s chosen one.” But what was Jesus chosen for? Well, God makes many promises, big and small, in the Old Testament. He promises in Genesis 3:15 that one day one of Eve’s descendants will crush the head of Satan. **In Genesis 12** and 22 God promises Abraham that his descendants will be a *blessing* to entire world, for all time. He promises David in 2 Samuel 7 that he will establish his children’s throne and that his rule will last forever. Psalm 2 tells of God’s anointed, a Son that God would make the ruler of the world, a Son who would scatter God’s enemies. God promises in Micah 5 that a ruler will come from a tiny clan of Judah, a clan called Bethlehem and that this ruler would shepherd God’s people and bring them peace. He promises in Isaiah 9 that a child would be born from the tribe of Judah and that the government would be on his shoulders and that his name will be Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace and that this child would rule on David’s throne and his reign would extend throughout the world, bringing peace wherever it went.

God’s people in the Old Testament were constantly on the lookout for how God would fulfill these promises. They didn’t know exactly how he do it. They did not know who Jesus Christ was. He had not yet come. They wondered; would Abraham crush the head of the snake? Would Moses, the great deliverer who led the Israelite’s out of Egypt defeat Satan once and for all? Would the mighty king David do it? Or his son, Solomon? Would the clan of Bethlehem or the tribe of Judah gain world power? Would God accomplish his promises in some supernatural mysterious way? But while all these people and groups were chosen by God for a special purpose, none of them were *the* Messiah. So, would God fulfill his promises? Would God rescue his people? Would God be faithful? Would God send his messiah?

Then at an unexpected time, in an unexpected way: A teenage girl and her young fiancé. A world in political and social upheaval. A miraculous, unexplainable pregnancy. A long journey. Fear, shame, hope, love. A dark, cold cave. A manger. A cry. Behold, the messiah. Born in Bethlehem, from the tribe of Judah, a son of David, a descendant of Abraham, a descendant of Eve, the Son of God who will bless the world and crush the head of the snake through his own death and resurrection, fulfilling God’s promises. Behold the Messiah.