



hope

of the

world

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*This Christmas, with all the tragedy
and despair in our world right now...*

Do you need Hope?

hop



Do you need Hope?

In a four-day period, many areas of Texas received more than 40 inches of rain as the system slowly meandered over eastern Texas and adjacent waters, causing catastrophic flooding. With peak accumulations of 64.58 inches, **Hurricane Harvey** is the wettest tropical cyclone on record in the United States. The resulting **floods inundated hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than 30,000 people, and prompted more than 17,000 rescues.** (Wikipedia)



Do you need Hope?

On the morning of November 5, 2017, a gunman opened fire inside First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, TX, **killing 26 people and injuring 20 others.**

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Do you need Hope?



What is Hope?

An assurance from God, that He will provide during the toughest of times.

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Where does the first Christmas story take place?

Israel in the time of Jesus

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Where does the first Christmas story take place?

Nazareth in Galilee in the time of Jesus

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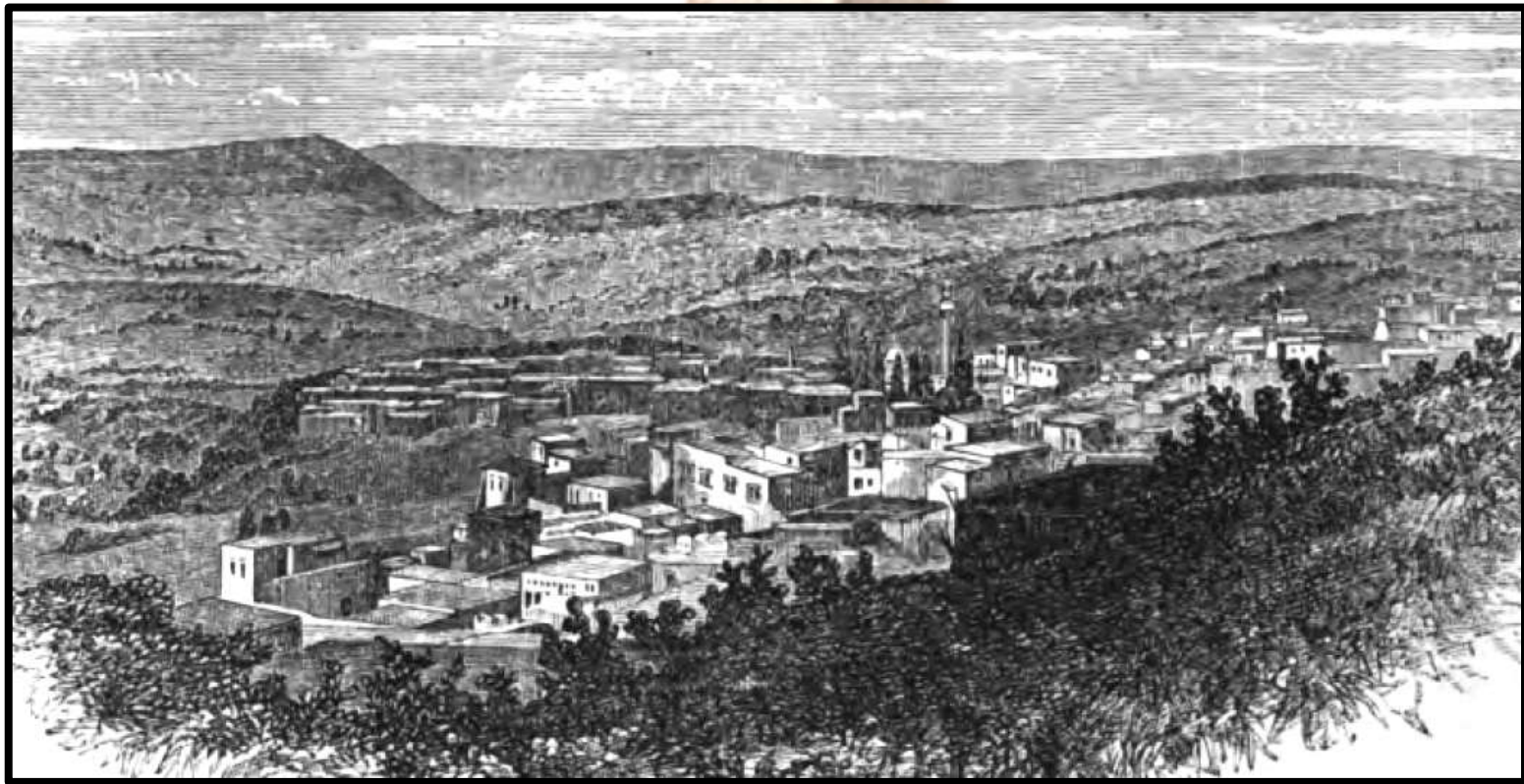
Hope Expects

Location: Nazareth

Passages: Luke 1:26-35

Matthew 1:18-25

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Painting of ancient Nazareth

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Meet Mary

Lots of Marys in the New Testament

1. Mary Magdalene, one of the women who ministered to Christ
2. Mary, sister of Lazarus and Martha, who hosted Jesus at her home in Bethany
3. Mary, wife of Cleopas, at the cross with Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Jesus. She was that “other Mary” who was present with Mary of Magdala at the burial; she was one who went early in the morning of the first day of the week to anoint the body.
4. Mary, the mother of John Mark, was one of the earliest disciples. She was the sister of Barnabas. Her house in Jerusalem was the common meeting-place for the disciples.
5. **The betrothed and later wife of Joseph, the mother of Jesus**

Meet Mary of Nazareth

- *Greek name Maria [Μαρία, Μαριάμ]
- *Hebrew name Miryam [מִרְיָם]; named after the elder sister of Moses and Aaron
- *As a young teenager, she was betrothed (Hebrew Erusin אֵירוּסַיִן) to Joseph
- *She was taught a woman's role in Jewish prayers and blessings, and like all Jewish people she was waiting for the promised Messiah
- *She is described as a “virgin” in Luke 1:27
- *She is called “favored one” of the Lord in Luke 1:28
- *The angel Gabriel said “the Lord is with you” in Luke 1:28

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Luke 1:26-35

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Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." Luke 1:26-28

Do you need Hope?

When God sees you in a more beautiful and special way than the other people in your life do?



But she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. Luke 1:29

Do you need Hope?

When you think God is speaking to you but you have never experienced His miraculous voice before?

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Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth

stands over the cave that tradition holds to be the home of Mary. The archangel Gabriel told the young Mary, aged about 14, that she would become the mother of the Son of God. www.seetheholyland.net/church-of-the-annunciation

The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.” Luke 1:30-31

Do you need Hope?

When fear overwhelms you? When God promises a miracle and you can't comprehend the magnitude of His eternal plan?

The angel said to her, “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” Luke 1:32-33

Do you need Hope?

When you get a glimpse of God keeping His eternal promises and you are right in the middle of it?

Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.” Luke 1:34-35

Do you need Hope?

When God reminds you that He is able to do far more than you can ever think or imagine?

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Meet Joseph

Lots of Josephs in the Bible

1. The eleventh son of Jacob and the oldest of Rachel. His ability to interpret dreams and administrative gifts in Egypt earned the confidence of Pharaoh and a high position.
2. A son of Asaph, head of first division of sacred musicians (1 Chronicles 25).
3. The son of Judah, and father of Semei (Luke 3:26).
4. **The foster-father of our Lord Jesus (Matthew 1:16; Luke 3:23).**
5. A native of Arimathea, a man of wealth, member of the Sanhedrin (Matthew 27:57), requested the body of Jesus from Pilate. Assisted by Nicodemus, took down the body and wrapped it in fine linen and buried Jesus in the new tomb in his garden.
6. Surnamed Barsabas (Acts 1:23); also called Justus. Ministered with the apostles (Acts 1:21), one of the candidates for the place of Judas.
7. Father of Igal of tribe of Issachar, chosen by Moses to spy out Canaan (Numbers 13).
8. A descendant of Binnui; a postexilic Jew who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10).
9. A head of the priestly father's house of Shebaniah when Joiakim was high priest (Nehemiah 12:14).

Meet Joseph of Nazareth

*He is betrothed to and later husband of Mary Matthew 1:18

*He is called a “righteous man” Matthew 1:19

*He was by trade a carpenter or craftsman Matthew 13:55

*Carpenter = τέκτων tektōn in New Testament Greek

Definition: a worker in wood, a carpenter, joiner, builder; a ship’s carpenter or builder; any craftsman, or stone workman

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Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. Matthew 1:18

Do you need Hope?

When you are doing all that you have been taught to do and the events of your life do not go as you desired?

And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. Matthew 1:19

Do you need Hope?

When your dreams do not work out the way you expected? When life is disappointing? When you are embarrassed? When you want to start all over?

But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit."
Matthew 1:20

Do you need Hope?

When fear and shame and doubt overwhelm you?
When you can't understand? When you can't believe?

“She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus (יֵשׁוּעַ Yeshua), for He will save (יַשִּׁיחַ yasha) His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21

Do you need Hope?

When God has a different, and bigger, plan for your life?
When God offers salvation to the world and gives you responsibility to be a part of His eternal plan?

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Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which translated means, “God with us.” Matthew 1:22-23

Do you need Hope?

When God makes promises you can't comprehend?
When the world seems crazy but yet God promises to be
“with us”?

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Old Testament Prophecy

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:14

Ancestors:

The "seed of a woman"

Descendent of Abraham

Descendent of Isaac

Descendent of Jacob

From the Tribe of Judah

Heir to the Throne of David

Is. 7:14, Matt. 1:23, Luke 1:27

Gen. 18:18, Acts 3:25

Gen. 17:19, Matt.1:2

Num. 24:17, Luke 3:34

Gen. 49:10, Luke 3:33

Isa. 9:7, Luke 1:32-33

Birth and Childhood:

Born in Bethlehem

To be born of a virgin

Time of His birth

Slaughter of the innocent children

Flight to Egypt

He shall be called a Nazarene

Micah 5:2 , Matt.2:1

Isa. 7:14, Matt.1:18

Dan. 9:25, Luke 2:1-2

Jer. 31:15, Matt.2:16

Hos. 11:1, Matt.2:14

Jud. 13:5, Matt.2:23

Old Testament Prophecies

And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife, but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus. Matthew 1:24-25

Do you need Hope?

When you trust that God is good and honest, even as your family members call you crazy and foolish? When you move ahead and obey God for only one reason – faith?

Hope Expects

- Questions that I cannot answer
- Struggles and disappointments in life
- That God knows more than I do
- God's eternal will to be accomplished
- That God's grace is greater than I can imagine
- That God's love is never ending
- God to offer me a place in His redemption story
- That God's plan is bigger than my plan

From where does Hope come?

“My soul, wait in silence for God only, for **my hope is from Him**. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken. On God my salvation and my glory rest; the rock of my strength, my refuge is in God. Trust in Him at all times, O people, pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.”

Psalms 62:5-8

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