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## Hope – Pt 3 A Christian's Hope in life and in death

Last week we established from the scriptures that (1) the substance of our hope is the scriptures, (2) the hope of Israel was in the Lord, (3) we have hope in the gospel, and (4) we have hope in eternal life. In this study we establish that (1) we hope that Christ would be magnified in our body, (2) Christ in you, the hope of glory, and (3) we have hope in our Lord Jesus Christ such that we hope in our own resurrection.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

### 1. We hope that Christ would be magnified in our body.

"According to my earnest expectation and hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed... so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body..." (Phil.1: 20).

"And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost (Rom.5: 5).

### 2. Christ in you, the hope of glory.

"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col.1: 27).

### 3. We have hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father" (1 Thes.1: 3).  
Also 1 Cor.15: 19

We have hope in Christ because of His resurrection (1Cor.15: 20). Therefore we hope  
i) in **our** resurrection (Acts 24: 15, & 23: 6) and  
ii) in being in His presence at His coming (1 Thes.2: 19), and  
iii) "For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven" (Col.1: 5).

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life

When my Aunty Thelma died her funeral was a time of sorrow and reflection on her life, and a few words of hope to the relatives that "she was in a better place", no mention of where that place was, just it was better. But such hope, for hope's sake is vain. Because the reality for a non-believer is the body is in the grave, and they cease to exist.

Question to think about.

What is a common link between an agnostic, atheist, and the religion of Islam?

Our answer from the scriptures.

They all exclude Christ and therefore, they have no hope (Eph.2: 12) – and hence only have sorrow when a loved one dies (1 Thes.4: 13).

The substance of our hope in Christ is the scriptures of truth which say that – hope of Christ is an anchor to our soul (Heb.6: 18 & 19).

The apostle Paul, a Christian that was called out of Pharisaical Judaism said – "if Christ be not risen, then our preaching is vain, and your faith is also vain...If in this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead" (1 Cor.15: 14, 19, 20). Therefore, if there is no Christ there is no hope, if there is no resurrection – there is no hope. No hope in life – where the Christian hopes that Christ is magnified in his body, Christ in you the hope of glory and no hope in death – where the Christian hopes in their own resurrection. Amen!