

# Hope in the Waiting

## Luke 1:26-56

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## The Birth of Jesus Foretold

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

<sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

## Luke 1:26–56

**29** Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

**30** But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

## Luke 1:26–56

<sup>34</sup> “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

<sup>35</sup> The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

## Luke 1:26–56

<sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For no word from God will ever fail.”

<sup>38</sup> “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

# Luke 1:26–56

## Mary Visits Elizabeth

**39** At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, **40** where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.

**41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit

## Luke 1:26–56

**42** In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! **43** But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

**44** As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. **45** Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

## Luke 1:26–56

### Mary's Song

**46** And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord

**47** and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

**48** for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

**49** for the Mighty One has done great things for me—  
holy is his name.

## Luke 1:26–56

**50** His mercy extends to those who fear him,  
from generation to generation.

**51** He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;  
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

**52** He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
but has lifted up the humble.

**53** He has filled the hungry with good things  
but has sent the rich away empty.

**54** He has helped his servant Israel,  
remembering to be merciful

**55** to Abraham and his descendants forever,  
just as he promised our ancestors.”

## Luke 1:26-56

<sup>56</sup> Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

waiting



Isaiah 9:1-2

That time of darkness and despair will not go on forever... The people who walk in darkness will see **a great light**. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, **a light will shine...**



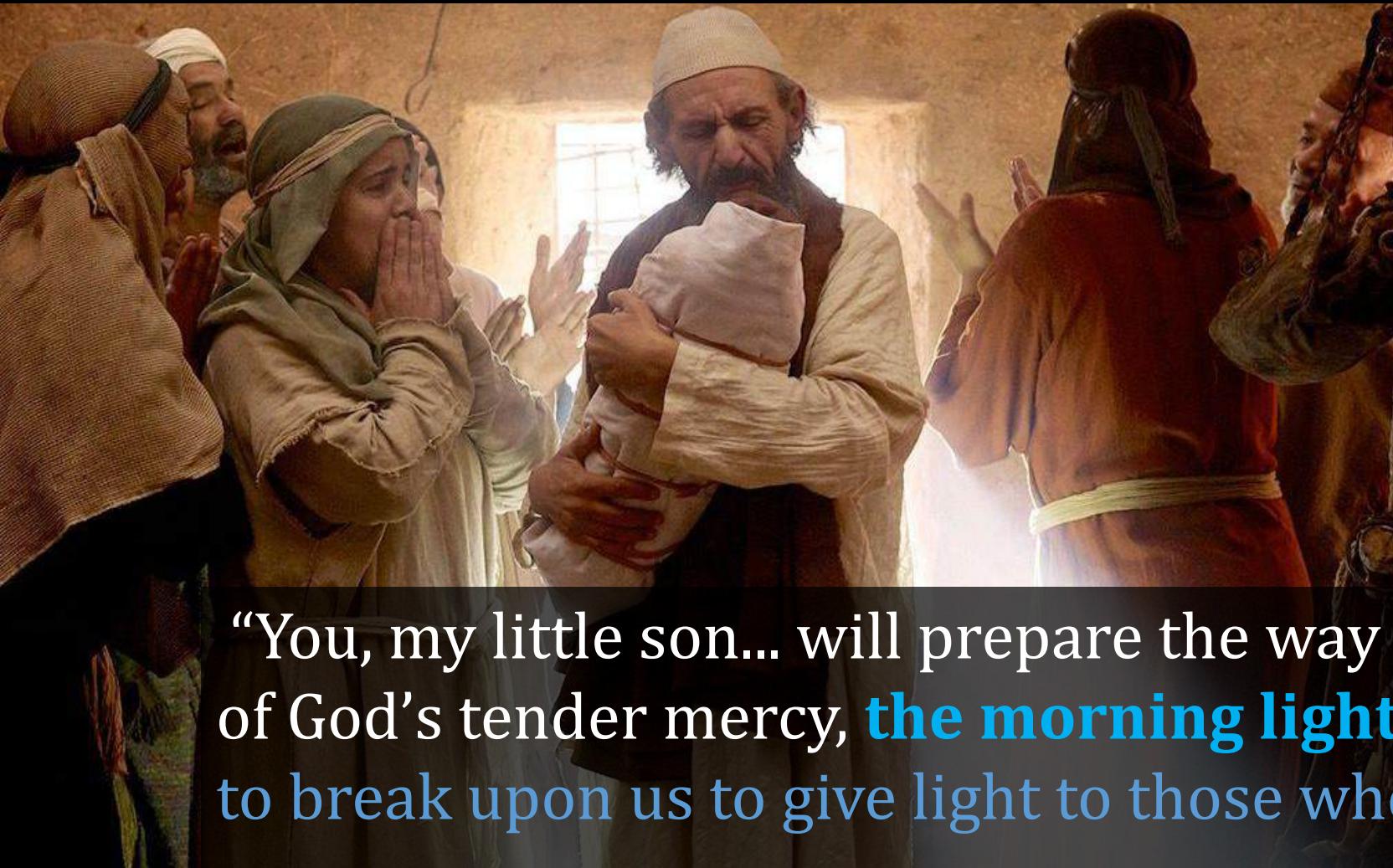
Malachi 4:1-2

The day of judgment is coming, burning like a furnace...

But for you who fear my name, the **Sun of Righteousness**  
will rise with healing in his wings.







“You, my little son... will prepare the way for the Lord... Because of God’s tender mercy, **the morning light from heaven** is about to break upon us to give light to those who sit in darkness...”

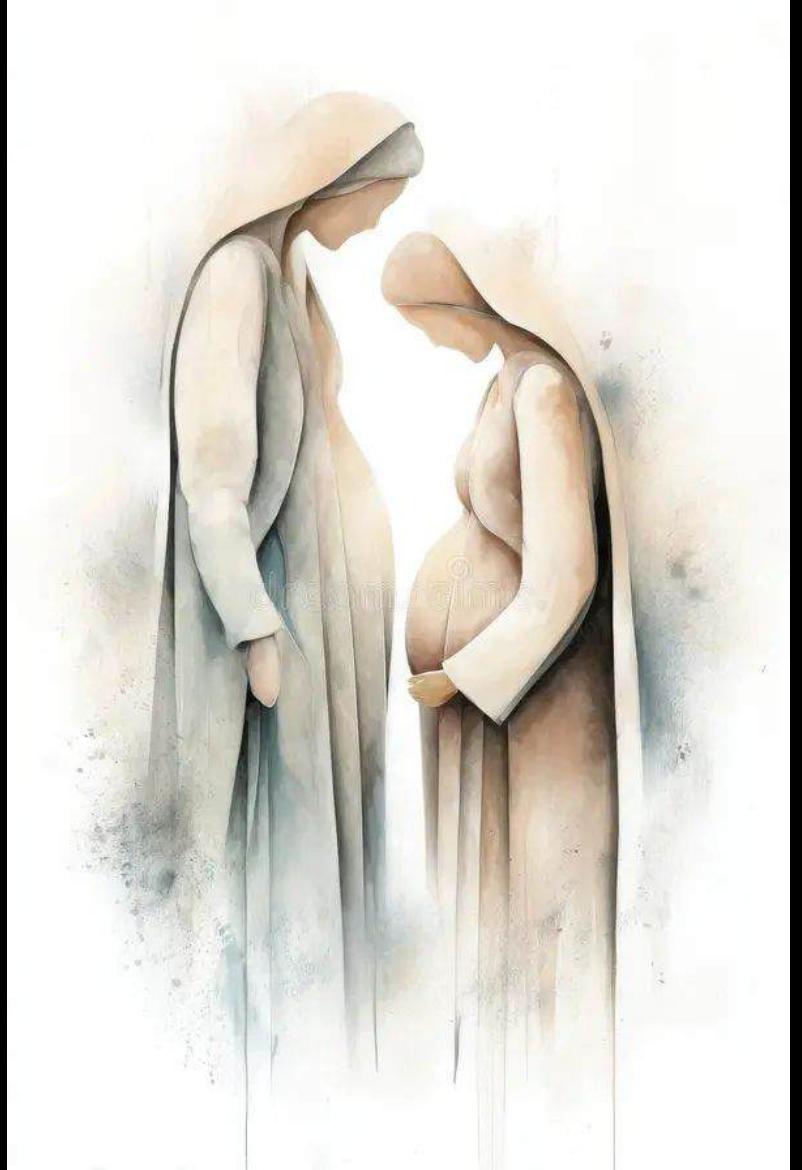
Luke 1:76, 78-79

God sent... John the Baptist to tell about **the Light...**  
**the One who is the true light**, who gives light to  
everyone, was coming into the world."

John 1:6



hope of Chris



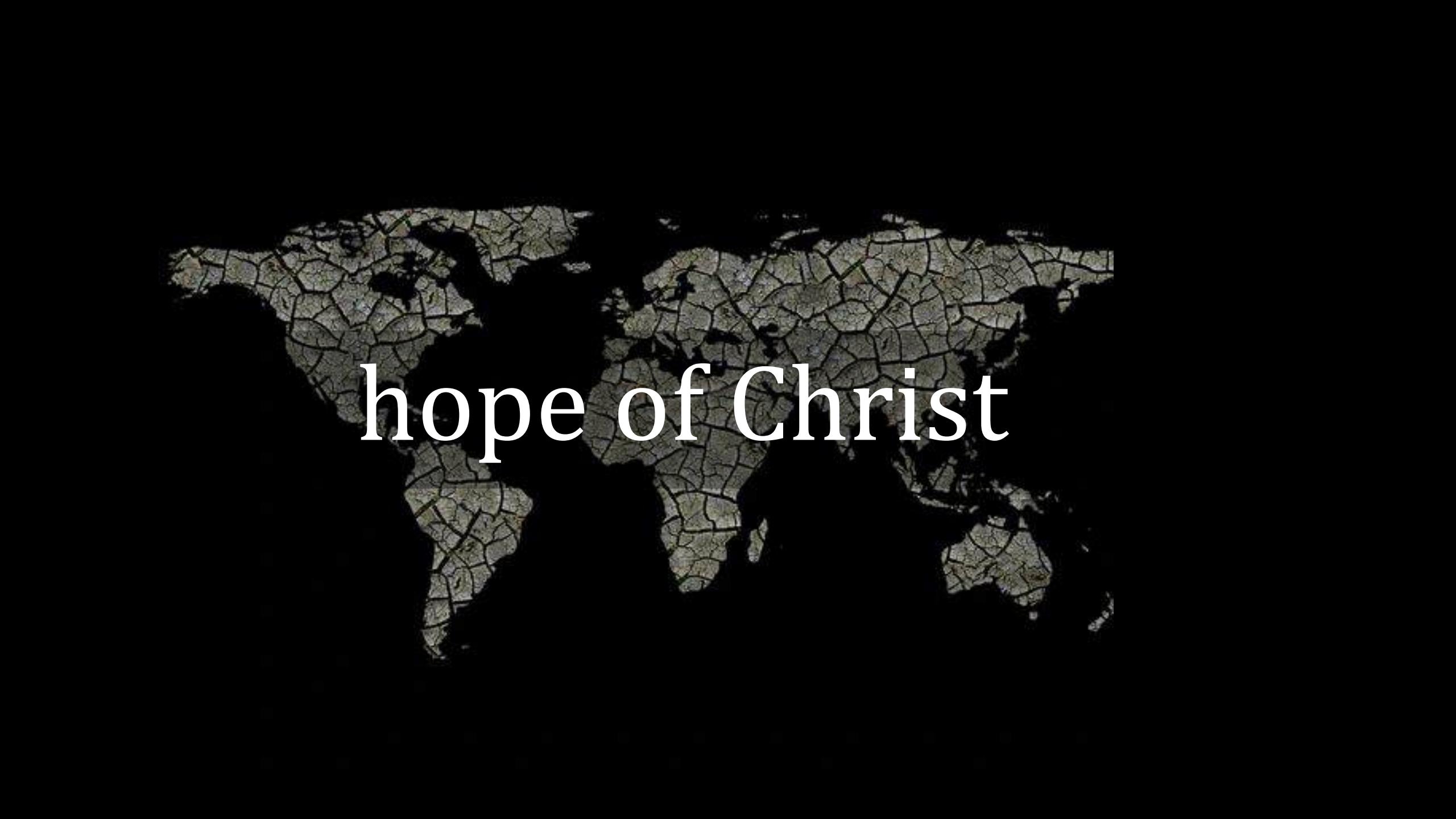


2025



We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time

Rom. 8:22



hope of Christ

## Acts 3:20-21

<sup>20</sup> Then **times of refreshment will come** from the presence of the Lord, and he will again send you Jesus, your appointed Messiah. <sup>21</sup> For he must remain in heaven until the time for **the final restoration of all things**, as God promised long ago through his holy prophets.

## Acts 3:20-21

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## Isa. 65:17-19

“For behold, I create **new heavens and a new earth...** the former things shall not be remembered... “

## **Acts 3:20-21**

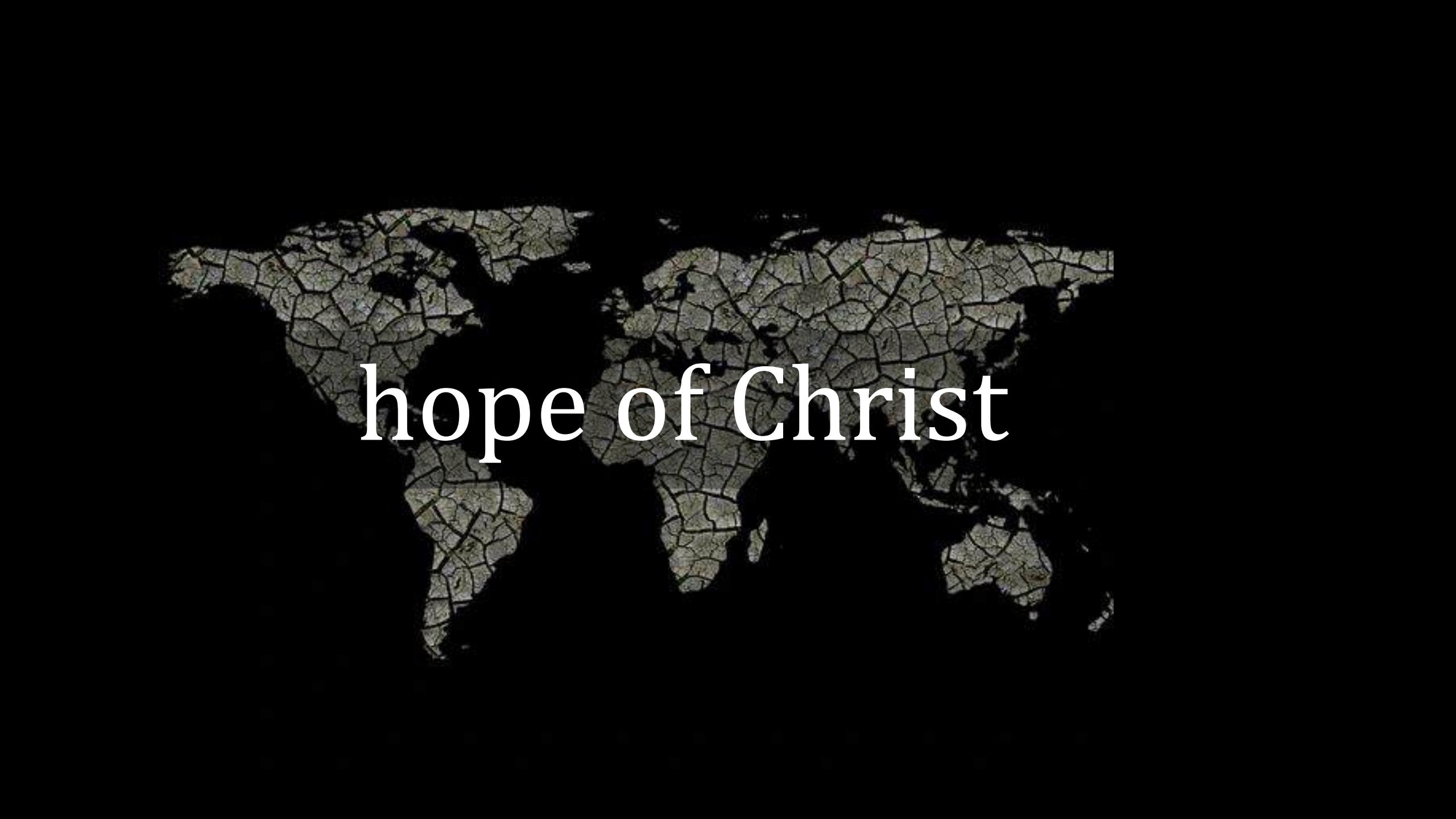
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## **Rev. 21:3-5**

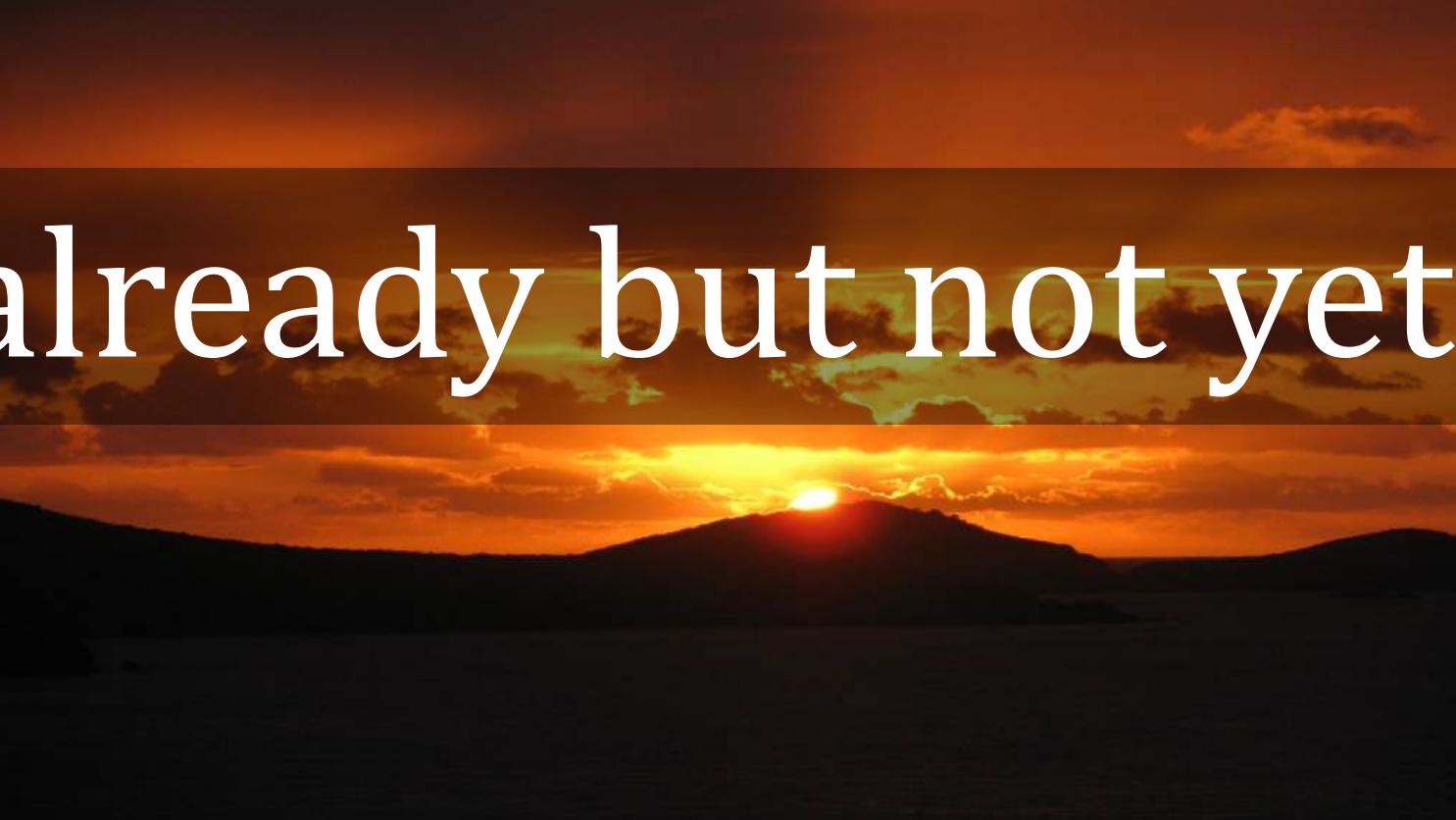
“Behold, I am making **all things new.**”



hope of Christ



already but not yet



already but not yet

God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles  
the glorious riches of this mystery, which is  
**Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

Col. 1:27





For God, who said, “Let there be light in the darkness,” has made this **light shine in our hearts** so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ. **We now have this light shining in our hearts**, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing **this great treasure....**

2 Cor. 4:6-7



I am the **light of the world.**  
Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,  
but will have the **light of life.**

John 8:12





*carrying hope*  
***... Christ in me***

## Psalm 8:2

Through the **praise** of children and infants you  
have established a **stronghold** against your  
**enemies, to silence** the foe and the avenger.

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Through the **praise** of children and infants you  
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## Psalm 92:12-14

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,

...

They will still **bear fruit in old age**,  
they will **stay fresh and green**.



## Psalm 92:12-14

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,

...

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they will **stay fresh and green**.

## Psalm 71:17-18

Since my youth, God, you have taught me,  
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

**Even when I am old and gray**,  
do not forsake me, my God,  
**till I declare your power to the next generation...**





Uncle San  
1952-2023



*suffering* produces endurance...

endurance produces character...

character produces **hope**...

Rom. 5:3-4

*suffering* produces endurance...

endurance produces character...

character produces **hope**...

Rom. 5:3-4

**My power** is made perfect in *weakness*...

2 Cor. 12:9



*carrying hope*  
***... Christ in me***



## Luke 1:39–40

<sup>39</sup> At that time **Mary got ready and hurried** to a town in the hill country Judea, <sup>40</sup> where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.



## Luke 1:31–33

**31 You will conceive and give birth to a son,** and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called **the Son of the Most High.** The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”



## Luke 1:36–37

**36** Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month.

**37** For no word from God will ever fail.”



## Luke 1:39–40

**39** At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country Judea,  
**40** where she entered Zechariah's home and **greeted Elizabeth.**



## Luke 1:41

**41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, **the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.**



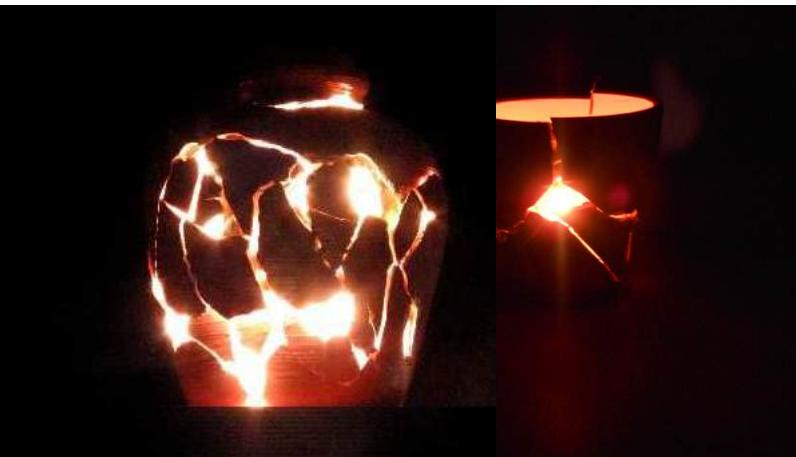
## **Luke 1:42, 45**

**42** In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!...

**45** Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”



*carrying hope*  
... Christ *in me*



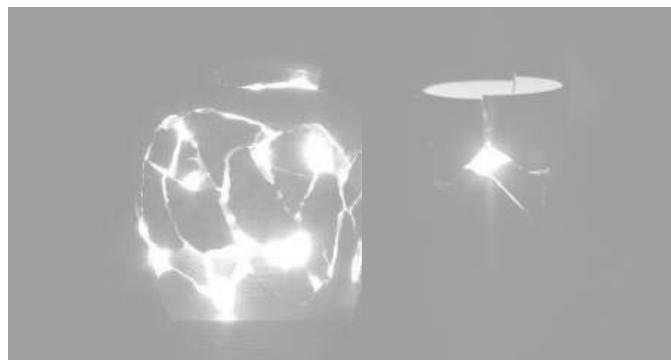
*recognizing hope*  
... Christ *in you*

## **Luke 1:56**

**Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months** and then returned home.



*carrying hope*  
... **Christ in me**



*recognizing hope*  
... **Christ in you**



*journeying together in hope*  
... **Christ in us**



we cannot hope in Christ alone  
we hope in Christ *together*

Thomas Aquinas

None of us can hope alone. We need  
**companions in hope.** This is why **hope is**  
**connected to friendship and community**  
and is impossible without them...

Paul Wadell

None of us can make our way alone on the journey to God's kingdom without getting sidetracked, even lost. We are bound to lose our way in discouragement and disappointment if there are not **others journeying with us** who remind us where we are going and help us along the way...

Paul Wadell

we cannot sustain hope by ourselves because  
**hope is a shared virtue... a partnership**  
believers have with one another in Christ.

Paul Wadell



Robert Louis Stevenson

“punch holes in the darkness”



Robert Louis Stevenson

**Matt. 5:14-15**

You are the **light of the world**. A **city set on a hill** cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a **lamp** and put it under a basket, but **on a stand**, and it gives light to all in the house.

## Luke 1:46-55

### Mary's Song

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## Luke 1:46-55

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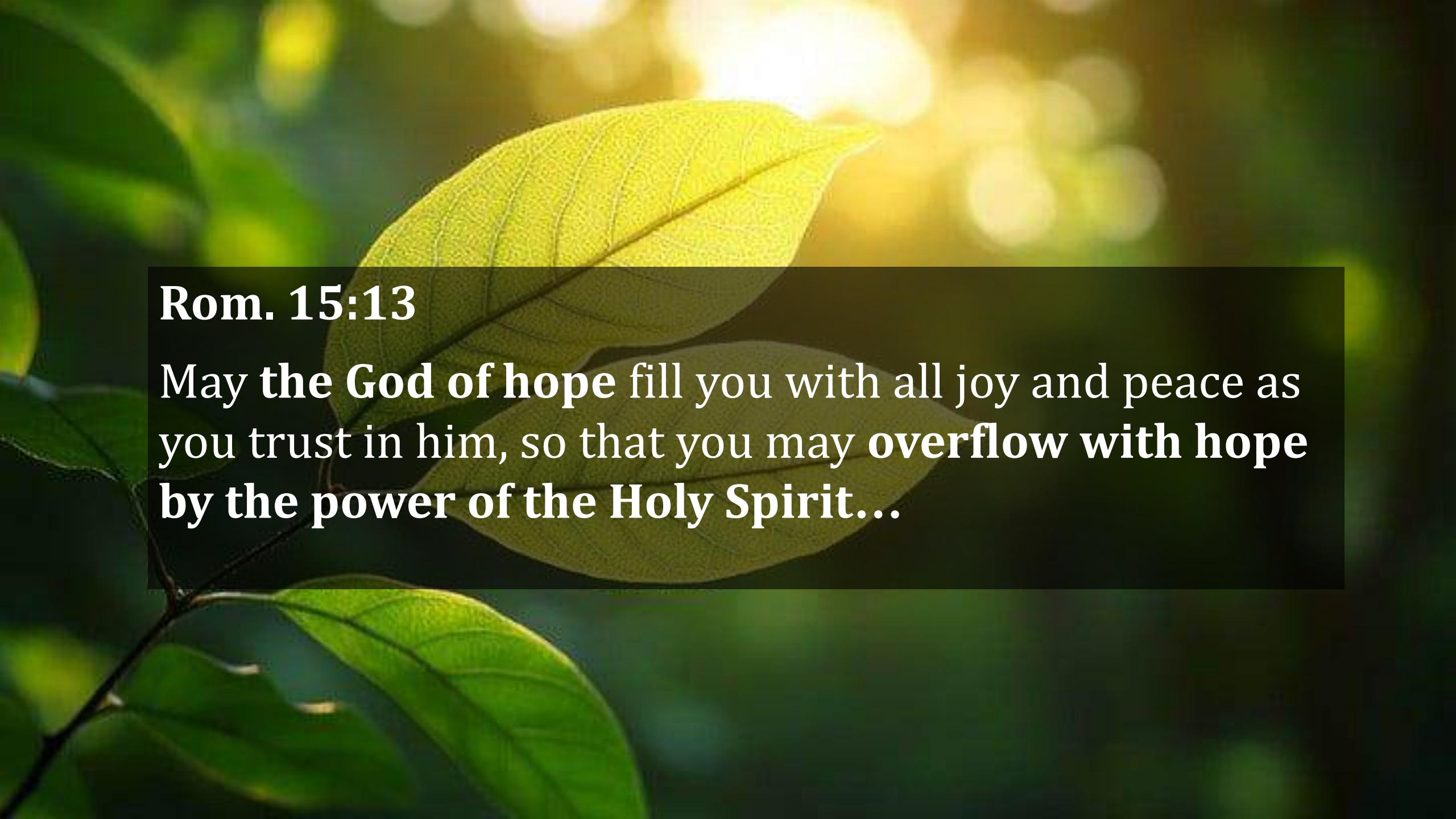






## Eph. 1:18

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may **know the hope to which he has called you**, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.

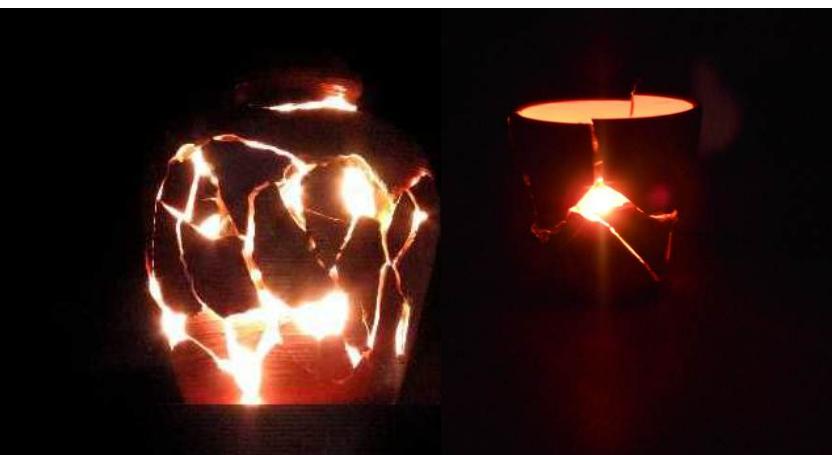


**Rom. 15:13**

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit...**



*carrying hope*  
... **Christ in me**



*recognizing hope*  
... **Christ in you**



*journeying together in hope*  
... **Christ in us**