

# “The Reason for Hope!”

## ‘Hope Has Come!’

### Isaiah 9:1-7

Pastor Dan

“A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes - and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent”

---Dietrich Bonhoeffer

#### The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines “Hope:

1. To cherish a desire with anticipation
2. To desire with expectation of obtainment or fulfillment
3. To expect with confidence, Trust

#### In the Bible, the Hebrew language has two good words for hope: (Bible Project)

1. **Yakhal** – which means simply “to wait for”
2. **Qavah** – also means “to wait”, the feeling of tension and expectation, like a twisting rope; waiting on the edge of your seat for something to happen

#### 1.) There is a hope that leaves us empty!

- A. When we place our hope in our positions, ourselves, and others, we will often be left discouraged and disappointed.
  - a. Everything on earth will perish! **Matthew 6:19-21 Ecclesiastes 1:1-4**
  - b. The heart of man is not to be trusted! **Jeremiah 17:9-10**
  - c. We have all sinned and fallen short. **Romans 3:23**
  - d. We shouldn't let the worldly success of the world deter our hope. **Proverbs 23:17-18**

#### 2.) Hope without expectation or fulfillment makes the heart sick! Proverbs 13:12

- A. When we hope in something that won't come to fruition we have a false sense of optimism!
- B. The Psalmist realizes that when their hope was in themselves they became discouraged and depressed within themselves. **Psalm 42:11, 43:5**
- C. We hand rest in God's unfailing love because of Jesus. **Psalm 130:7**

#### 3.) We have Hope because Jesus has come Isaiah 9:1-7

- A. Because of Jesus we no longer have to live in gloom or despair! V1
- B. Because of Jesus we no longer have to live in darkness! V2
- C. Because of Jesus we can have a hope to be set free from the burdens of oppression! V4-5
- D. Because of Jesus we have a mighty counselor that we can go to so that He may become our prince of peace! V6
- E. Because of Jesus' justice and righteousness, we never have to go back to despair for His kingdom will reign forever! V7

#### Closing Questions!

- 1.) Is your hope placed in the living God or things that fade?
- 2.) Is your hope in yourself or others?
- 3.) Do you eagerly wait on with anticipation for the Lord to work in your trials or do you turn to despair? **Romans 8:20-21**
- 4.) Will you put your hope in Jesus today? **Psalm 130:5-7**