

To sum up, we can say that the true hope is the 'hope of the gospel'. The gospel which Christ preached concerned the Kingdom which he will establish on earth after His promised return from heaven. Those who hope for a reward after death in heaven are completely astray from Bible teaching. Jesus requires that we accept and believe from the heart the one true hope which he preached. This, we are told repeatedly in the New Testament, was the gospel (or good news) of the kingdom of God. The promise of the New Testament is that those who have been baptized into this gospel will be raised from the dead at the Lord's coming, then judged, and if found worthy, will receive the gift of eternal life and will inherit the Kingdom to be established on this earth. This will be the grand realisation of the One True Hope of the Gospel.

The Christadelphians

Please be assured that anything connected with the Christadelphians is entirely free, and based wholly upon Christ's precept, "**freely ye received, freely give**". Christadelphians, or as the name implies, brethren in Christ, are a body of people (established initially in the mid nineteenth century) bound together by a wholehearted belief in the Bible. We do not profess to have received any new revelation, but hold that the Bible itself is able to make one "**wise unto salvation**" (II Tim 3:15-17). Believing in the Divine Authorship of the Bible, we do not accept any interpretation which does not harmonise with its teaching as a whole. Finding that the creeds and practices of those who claim to be Christian are in many ways opposed to this teaching we feel compelled to stand apart from them. We believe in the personal, visible return of Christ to the earth, to establish his throne and reign thereon, and we seek to share this knowledge with others. However we guarantee that we will not pressurise you in any way if at any time you wish to discontinue contact.

To find out more about the word of God please contact:

THE CHRISTADELPHIANS
FREEPOST (CN 2737)
CROYDON
CR9 7WZ

or the publisher:

Andrew G Stubbs, The Christadelphians (Sherwood Meeting), 14 Covedale Road, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 3HY England.

or visit our website:

www.OnlyTrueGod.info

What Hope have you!

Watchman Christadelphians - Leaflet 21

www.OnlyTrueGod.info

What Hope Have You?

Perhaps you would have difficulty in expressing clearly any hope you may have concerning the future. Maybe you do not often think about it or talk about it to your friends. Yet definite information regarding the future can be obtained in the pages of the Bible.

You may think that it does not matter whether you know about the Bible hope or not, so long as you try to follow what are the generally accepted rules of a good life. If so, you are making a grave mistake. The hope set before us in the Bible concerning a future good provided by God has been made known for men to accept with earnestness and sincerity. God cannot be pleased with a light-hearted indifference about what He has promised; neither will He bestow His gift of a future life where men are not interested in His purpose.

Consider carefully the following facts:

1. Salvation depends upon our acceptance and permanent holding of the hope preached by the apostles:

'We are saved by hope' — (in the original, 'THE hope') (Rom. 8:24)

'Whose (Christ's) house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end' (Heb. 3:6)

'If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel' (Col. 1:23)

The gospel 'is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth' (Rom. 1:16)

2. There is only one hope shown in apostolic teaching and not several, various or conflicting hopes:

'Ye are called in one hope of your calling' (Eph. 4:4)

The hope of the gospel' (Col. 1:23)

'Looking for that blessed hope' (Tit. 2:13)

'Whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel' (Col. 1:5)

'If any man preach any other gospel unto you ... let him be accursed' (Gal. 1:9)

3. This one hope is the hope of Israel, or the hope established in the Jewish nation, ages before Christ appeared, by the promises made to the fathers of that nation:

'For the hope of Israel I (Paul) am bound with this chain' (Acts 28:20)

Jesus Christ came **'to confirm the promises made unto the fathers'** (Rom. 15:8)

'To whom (the Jews) pertaineth ... the promises' (Rom. 9:4)

'Salvation is of the Jews' (John 4:22)

4. This hope presents the prospect of certain good things to come, to be hoped for on the strength of the promise of God, whom we honour by believing His Word:

'Faith is the substance of things hoped for' (Heb. 11:1)

'Hope to the end for the grace (or favour) that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ' (1 Pet. 1:13)

'Here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come' (Heb. 13:14)

'Strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform' (Rom. 4:20,21)

5. It includes the hope of eternal life and inheritance of the Kingdom of God:

'In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised 'before the world began' (Tit. 1:2)

'This is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life' (1 John 2:25)

'Heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him' (James 2:5)

'So an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ' (2 Pet. 1:11)

'Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom' (Matt. 25:34)

6. Without a belief in it — a hearty and joyful belief — we cannot be saved:

'Without faith (which is the substance of things hoped for — see verse 1) it is impossible to please God' (Heb. 11:6)

'He that believeth not shall be condemned' (Mark 16:16)

'Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself.' (1 John 3:3)

'We must 'hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end' (Heb. 3:6)

'We are saved by hope' (Rom. 8:24) ►►