

## ***“The Light of Hope”***

*Follow the Star #1*

1 Peter 1:3-9

**1 Peter 1:3-7** (NIV) <sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup> These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

### ***What Hope is Not***

*Wishing      Passive      A Feeling*  
*Real Hope is a Gift! (elpis)*

### ***How Real Hope is Developed***

#### ***1.The Foundation of Our Hope –***

##### ***The Promises of God.***

**Hebrews 10:23** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

**Jeremiah 29:11** I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

**2 Peter 1:3-4** His [God's] divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us **his very great and precious promises**, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

#### ***2. The Formation of Our Hope –***

##### ***The Challenges of Life.***

**Romans 5:3-5** Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

**James 1:2-4** Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. Romans 8:28

**Hebrews 6:18-19** ...we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain,

#### ***3. The Fulfillment of Our Hope –***

##### ***The Presence of Christ.***

**John 8:12** When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

***“The hopes and fears of all the years,  
are met in thee tonight.”***