

## Title: The Reality of Christmas - Jesus our Hope

*Open Bibles to Psalm 42*

Today marks the official start of advent.

If you don't know what advent is, Advent is a Christian tradition that began in the 4th century as a time for Christians to prepare themselves to celebrate the life of Jesus. And it wasn't until the middle ages that it became much more focused to what it is now, which is a time for Christians to prepare themselves to celebrate SPECIFICALLY the coming of Jesus — both that he came. And that he is coming again.

Advent is a time of REMEMBERING that Christ came already, which is what we celebrate at Christmas time. But also a time of ANTICIPATION of Christ coming again.

So for the next four Sundays leading up to Christmas, we will be observing advent, **remembering** and **anticipating** Jesus, and we will be working through a mini series called “The Reality of Christmas”, and each week we will be looking at a topic that we pray will help our hearts and minds recalibrate and center around what this season is really about, namely, Jesus, the “Christ” in Christmas — That He came. That He is coming again. And what that says about God, and what that means for us.

- This season marks a fork in the road for us guys—there are 2 paths, and we must decide for ourselves, for our circles of influence, and for our families which one we're gonna take.
- **We can follow the herd** down the path where we are consumed with Christmas lists, and Christmas gifts, and stressing about getting our loved ones all the right presents.
- **Or we can follow the more narrow path** of intentional reflection on, and anticipation of, Jesus.
- The first is a broad path that has no eternal value, and will leave us, on a soul level, empty, and even hopeless when it's all done (not to mention broke or in debt).
- The other is a narrow, quiet path that leads to intimacy with Jesus, which is a path leading to HOPE.
- **And that's on us to decide which one we're going to take, and which one we're going to lead our people down (whoever those people are for you).**

So, to kick off this advent series, we are going to be talking about hope. Specifically. Jesus, our Hope. And the text that we're using as a springboard today is Psalm 42:5.

**Psalm 42:5** “Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God.”

*Pray...*

**Hope. The Reality of Christmas is this: Jesus is our hope.**

A few years ago we went through the hardest time of our life, and I developed kind of this love hate relationship with hope.

These lyrics to this song, perfectly describe it:

I know I need you now, but I hate it.  
I'm scared that if I lose you I won't it.  
But ain't nobody do me like you do.  
The way that you break my heart in two.  
So tell me Hope, why am I still holding on to you?

- Most of you know that three years ago this month, we had a little baby boy born with a terminal birth defect called anencephaly. His name was Nehemiah.
- Nehemiah lived for exactly 22 hours until we had to say goodbye to him.
- **What most of you probably don't know, is that whole year was FULL of very difficult situations and events.**
- It started off when our one year fell off a bed old broke his collar bone, then two days later got second degree burns on the entire soles of both of his feet.
  - Then, while still healing, we surprisingly find out we're **pregnant with #4**, and just as we're adjusting to the idea of having another kid, we find out that he's got a terminal birth defect and has no chance of surviving
  - Then my **dad has a heart attack**
  - Then my **best friend** literally almost dies from a flu-like viral infection in his heart
  - Then **his wife**, who is my wife's best friend, at age 33, suddenly has to have a hysterectomy
  - Then one of our **closest family friends get drunk** and gets on a motorcycle with his 9 year old, almost kills them both
  - My **grandparents were in the hospital** all year
  - I had the **worst relational conflict of my entire adult life that year**
  - **Emily had all kinds of strange pregnancy problems** and was put on bed rest for months at a time, which meant that I was left trying to be a single dad to three kids AND a nurse, both of which I'm not very good at.
  - **It was also the slowest season** that I had ever had in my music career, which is awesome for having time to be a stay at home dad to my kids and a nurse to my wife, but not awesome when you're the only bread winner in the house.
    - So we got 3 months behind on our mortgage, which led to foreclosure letters being dropped off at our doorstep every couple of weeks
  - **Emily was in and out of the hospital all year**
  - Family friends died
  - Cousins were diagnosed with terminal brain cancer
  - People close to us like the Melia's were finding out that their children had cancer
  - I had two uncles die that year
  - We had a Grandma die.

- **Needless to say, it was the hardest time of our life.**

**And hope... well every time a new thing hit, it was like hope became further and further out of reach.**

She's a powerful that hope. She can get you through the worst things in life. **But** depending on what your hope is IN, she can also break your heart like no one else

- And for me, it got to the point where even the smallest thing could send me off the rails, or into the abyss.
- I remember at a friend Christmas party that year, we were having a white elephant gift exchange, and I had opened this gift bag and in it was coffee cup that when my wife saw it, she fell in love with it.
- So I did one of those moves where you kind of put it under you seat hoping no one will remember you have it.
- But then my mug got stolen. And I tried to hold the back the emotion, but everyone in the room knew how hurt I was when my mug was stolen.
- It was this tiny thing that I had **hoped** would turn out the way I wanted it to.
- The one that got me the worst that year was this one week when everything seemed to be going ok. Nobody had died. Nobody had been diagnosed with cancer. Nobody had been in the hospital. Emily wasn't bedridden, **and a baby sitter was available.**
- **So we were gonna go on a date.**
- And then my phone rang, and it was the baby sitter, and she said that her sister had gone into labor earlier than expected, so she had to go to the hospital wouldn't able to come babysit. I politely said, "Ok", hung up the phone and then I absolutely lost it.
  - I sat there on my bed, by myself, weeping uncontrollably.
- **Why?** In the midst of nothing going the way we had hoped it would, this was one teeny, tiny, little glimmer of hope we had —something we could look forward to and expect to happen the way we expected it to happen. **It was just a tiny bit of hope.**
- And it was like it got pulled out from under me. And when it did, it crushed me.
- **And that's when I realized how powerful hope can be.**

And I had to ask myself if I was ever going to let myself be optimistic or hopeful about anything in my life every again. Because I was kind of over it. I was over hope. **I was done with hoping for or expecting anything.**

And yet, I was terrified of what might happen if I lost hope.

And so those lyrics were birthed.  
I know I need you now, but I hate it.  
I'm scared that if I lose you I won't it.  
But ain't nobody do me like you do.  
The way that you break my heart in two.  
So tell me hope, why am I still holding on to you?

The bridge goes on to say,  
Maybe our time's come and gone on.  
Me and you have had a long time — a nice run.  
But everything good always has an end come.  
Maybe it's time you and I move on.  
But you're the one carrying me to the next line.  
Have I let you let me down for the last time.  
I need you more than I've ever had to, but I don't want to.

**I was scared to hope for anything because I had been let down so many times.**

**You ever felt like that?**

I think the Psalmist in our Psalm today had. He asks himself in HIS song here, **"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?" (Psalm 42:5 ESV)**

The NIV uses the word "disturbed". The New Living Translation the word "Sad".

These are the words of a man who has experienced disappointment, and discouragement.

**After the stock market crash of 2008, our nation felt like this. And she needed something powerful to inspire her to get back on her feet.**

- Almost 3 million people lost their jobs that year.
- 10 million families were displaced, having lost their homes.
- And as the American people, we collectively lost \$10trillion dollars.
  - That was people's retirement money. Their futures that they planned for.

And so, as a country America needed something powerful to help her rise from the ashes. **In a word, hope. She needed hope.**

- It's the reason Barak Obama's entire campaign that year used the word.
- It's why the street artist Shepherd Feary who designed that iconic image of Obama, wrote in big capital letters below his face, "H-O-P-E".
- And it's why Obama's speechwriter John Favreau, chose to use the word **30 times** in Obama's presidential inauguration speech.
- **It was brilliant and perfectly executed marketing.**
- **It was precisely what America needed to hear and see in order for her to feel like she could get up from the ashes.**
- And it was what got many American's out of bed in the next morning.

Google defines “Hope” as **Hope = An optimistic state of mind that is based on an expectation of positive outcomes. - Google**

In other words, **Hope is a feeling of expectation for a certain thing to happen.”**

**And it’s powerful.** We have all heard stories of people surviving the most painful torture, or the worst tragedies, simply because they had hope of something better coming.

- **And so the Psalmist, in our psalm, speaks to his downcast-depressed-disappointed-in-turmoil soul, and says, “Soul, hope.”**
- **He knew hope was the remedy for his depression. It was the healing balm for his hurting soul.**

So **What does it mean to hope** then?

- A kid says, **“I hope dad gets home early so we can play soccer.”**
  - In other words, hope is a DESIRE for something to happen.
- Many Americans after the 2008 crash said things like, **“I hope the economy will be revived.”**
  - In other words, hope is A THING in the future that we desire will come to pass.
- Or someone might have said, **“A good president is our only HOPE for a better future”.**
  - In this case hope is THE THING that will GET US to our desired destination.

**But is this what the Bible is talking about when it talks about hope?** Well, kind of. But this kind of hope is missing a massive ingredient that we find in the Biblical definition of hope.

- See, when we use the word “hope” as I just referred to, we are actually expressing quite a bit of uncertainty.
- **“I hope dad gets home early”** means that I don’t know if he will, but I am hoping that he does.
- **“I hope the economy will be revived”** means that I’m not actually positive that it will be.
- **A good president may have brought America to its desired goal**, but there was no guarantee that whoever America would elect would **actually be** a good president, and therefore would actually bring America to its desired goal.

When we express hope, most of the time, it comes along with a certain level of uncertainty. And rightly so, because which one of these things could ever bring us absolute certainty?

**But biblical hope is not just wishful, while uncertain, thinking & desire for something good in the future.**

**Biblical hope is a confident expectation and desire for something good in the future.**

- Biblical hope not only **desires** good to happen; it **expects** it to happen.
- And it not only **expects** it to happen; it is confident **that it will** happen
- There is a certainty that the good we expect and desire **will be done.**
- **But, in light of the reality of this life, how can you be certain of anything?**
  - The world is an unstable place.
  - How circumstances will turn out is uncertain.
  - Even the things that God does, we often don't understand why.
- **How can we then have a certainty that the good we expect and desire will actually be done?**
- **How can we have THAT kind of hope?**

Well, the Psalmist answers the question for us here in Psalm 42. Notice that he doesn't turn to his downcast-depressed-disappointed-in-turmoil soul, and just say "Soul. Hope." He says "Soul, **hope IN GOD.**"

**Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope IN GOD. (Psalm 42:5 ESV)**

- And that's the key. And that's also where we can, I for sure have, often lost track. I have put my hope in something **other** than God.
- Most often for me it is that I put my hope **in circumstances** turning out a certain way;
  - in **people doing** what they said they were going to do or what I think they should do
  - And when they don't go that way, and people don't act the way I expect them to, then I am let down and disappointed because my hope was in something or somebody who was never intended to provide for me the kind of security that I was expecting them to provide.
  - Listen when I say this,
  - **No created thing was ever intended to provide the kind of stability and surety that you are looking for.** Only One was intended provide that. The Psalmist said it, **"Hope IN GOD."**
- **You remember when we talked about faith a few weeks ago?** And we asked the question, "Who or what is your faith in — what is the **object** of your faith?"
- For instance, is your faith in circumstances going a certain way — in things turning out how you want them to?
- Or is your faith in a faithful, all powerful, all knowing, all good, all sovereign God who is a loving heavenly father, and good shepherd who knows what is best and has the power to do whatever he chooses with our circumstances?
- **What is the object of our faith?**
- And we talked about the reality that if anything other than God becomes the object of our faith, then every promise in scripture related to faith is not really for us, because that is not

what Bible is talking about when it is talking about faith. It is talking about a faith that placed squarely in God.

- And if we are living with something other than Him as our object of faith, then not only are those promises not for us, but we will forever be living in a constant state of disappointment.
- **Remember that?**
- Well, it is the same thing here with hope. In fact, faith and hope work together (Heb. 11 says that **"Faith is the assurance of things HOPED FOR."**).
- Hope actually works WITHIN FAITH. Faith is the larger idea, and hope is a the necessary component of biblical faith. Hope is that part of faith that looks to the future.
- In Biblical terms, when faith is directed toward the future, you can call it "hope". But faith can focus on the past and present too, so faith is the larger idea. But they work together.
- **And hope, like faith, will always have an object. And** The steadfast-never-let-you-down kind of hope that the Bible is talking about, is a hope who's object is God and God alone.

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**Is. 40:28-31 (NIV):** "The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary, and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope **IN THE LORD** will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

These promises of not growing tired, and soaring, and increasing strength... they are for the one who hope, yes. But hope IN THE LORD.

**Rom. 15:13 (NIV):** "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."

Joy will come. When? As you trust IN HIM.

**Heb. 10:23 (NIV):** "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for **he who promised is faithful.**"

**Psalms 31:24 (NIV):** "Be strong and take heart, all you who hope **in the Lord.**"

We're not talking about hoping in God as if he was like the conduit to get to our some other destination. He's not like our huckleberry to get us to some other treasure. **He IS the treasure. He IS the destination.** God IS our greatest gift.  
**Hope is found IN HIM.**

And if we try to replace him with anything else, we will always and forever be let down.



Have you ever been let down? Discouraged? Full of disappointment? Maybe you're feeling like that this morning... the psalmist would say to you, **"Friend, hope in God"**.

### Listen to this passage from Romans 5:

**Rom. 5:1-5 (NASB)** "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; **and hope does not disappoint**, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."

### Hope does not disappoint.

- For many of us, our experience tells us that hope actually DOES disappoint.
- And in fact it is often the GREATEST disappointer. For me it has been the great dream crusher in my life.
- And if we're honest with ourselves, we've all experienced this many times. That why we have this saying very popular saying, **"I just don't want to get my... HOPES up."**
- **Why? Because we know where that can take us. We've all been there.**
- But when the Bible says here in Rom. 5 that hope does not disappoint, it is saying that because the Bible is not talking about hope in things that **can** disappoint.
- The Bible is talking about hope in God and who God is.
- And **"The Bible is saying, "Child, get your hopes up!"**
- **Disappointment comes because we place our hope in things that can disappoint.**
  - We place our hope in things that can change and fail.
- And when we do this, we build our house of hope on a foundation of sinking sand.
- But what Paul is talking about here in Romans is building our house of hope on a Rock, a rock that will never let us down.
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- He says, here **"... hope does not disappoint (why?) because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."**
- Hope does not disappoint because who GOD IS does not disappoint. Specially in this passage. God's love does not disappoint. Earthly love disappoints. But the love of God does not disappoint. Who God is does not disappoint.
- When I have been the most hopeless and disappointed, it has been when have placed my hope in that which **could** disappoint. When I have build my house on the sand. But **The invitation from God is, "Child, come and hope in God — the Rock who CANNOT disappoint."**



**Our hope cannot rest in anything other than Him if we want to stand on firm ground. He is THE ONLY place where we find a foundation that cannot be shaken.**

- I need to say a word to some of you single people in here in here who are really longing for a spouse, who have placed a lot hope in a good thing to come in the future. That has become is the destination you long for. That has become the treasure you wait for. I get it. I've been there.
- But I just need to say that you will never find what you're looking for in that person. In ANY person. You can't. You weren't designed to find that in a person, and they weren't designed to be that for you. And neither was the institution or idea of marriage.
- I know the feeling, you say, "When I finally get married, then I'll be good."
- First, who knows if you'll ever get married. Who knows what God's plan is. Second of all, no you won't. No you won't be good, because no person was designed to give you that. And you weren't designed to find it in them.
- And spouse or not, if you're you're living like that then you're are setting yourself up for a lifetime of disappointment.
- **Church, we have to know... we have all experienced this... hope is not found in finding that person, or landing that job, or securing that thing, or saving that money, or that plan or vision coming to fruition.**
- **As King Solomon said, "All of it, is like grasping for the wind."**
- Hope that does not disappoint can only be found in Jesus. He **IS** our hope.
- **Jesus is our expectation and assurance of a good thing.**
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- This world is gonna let you down. Your employers, your employees, your spouse, your friends, your mentors, your pastors, your children, your plans — we are all going to let you down.
- And you're gonna let us down.
- The banks may fail again; the housing and stock markets may crash again.
- **Everything and everyone in this life will, at some point, let us down and disappoint. But HOPE IN GOD does not disappoint.**
- Specifically, for our purpose today, let me say it like this: **Hope that is set on who Christ is, what He has done, and what He is going to do, does not disappoint.**
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- I said earlier that advent is a time for Christians to focus on REMEMBERING that Christ came, and ANTICIPATING that He will come again.
- **It is in this remembering and in this anticipation that we can find hope this morning, and every morning for that matter.** And not just any hope, but hope that will not disappoint.

And I want to talk for a minute here, about what exactly that means for us.

First of all, as remember that Jesus came — what does it means that we can find hope in the coming of Jesus.

The Reality of Christmas is that Jesus is our Hope. So, as we REMEMBER the coming of Jesus, let's remember what that says about God — **the one on whom we build our houses of hope.**

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### **The coming of Jesus means that GOD IS:**

- **God is Faithful and will accomplish what He sets out to accomplish** (from the garden of Eden it was prophesied that from the woman's seed would come the one who would crush the head of the servant. And then the entire old testament pointed to the coming Messiah. And he came. Jesus. Emmanuel. God with us. He who promised is faithful.)
- **God is good** (only a good God would send his son)
- **God is all powerful** (only an all powerful God could create something from nothing - Jesus in the virgin womb)
- **God is all knowing and all wise** (only an all knowing and all wise God could have kept Mary protected from a King who was attempted to kill the very baby in her womb)
- **God prevails** (even in face of evil men trying to shut Jesus up at his birth and death couldn't shut up his life or his purpose. In fact, in his death, he conquered death)

### **The coming of Jesus means that WE ARE:**

- **We are loved** (God demonstrated his love for us, in that while we were still in our sin, Christ died for the ungodly)
- **We are adopted as sons and daughters** (we are no longer fearful slaves to sin, or slaves to the law. We are children of God.)
- **We have a new identity** (our identity has shifted from lost to found. from orphan to child. from slave to free. from the ones fail to obey all rules to the ones who are loved and accepted. from the ones who can't say no to their sinful desires to the ones who are more than conquerors. from filthy to righteous. from enemies of God to friends of God. from the dead to the alive)
- **We are cared for by a father, a shepherd, a comforter** (in Jesus' coming he showed us the father; in Jesus walking among us he showed us a shepherd; and as he ascended he left the Holy Spirit our comforter)

**This is what Jesus coming says about who God is, and who we are. This is what the coming of Jesus means for us.**

**But this is just half of the story. This is what we find in Jesus COMING the first time. But more often than not, when the Bible speaks of hope, it is in the context of what IS TO COME — hope is the FUTURE assurance and confident expectation of what IS to come.**

So, if then, it is not just in his **coming**, but also in his coming AGAIN that we find hope, then

### **What does Jesus coming again mean for us?**

First of all, in case you didn't know (and some of you may not), Jesus IS coming again. He came once two thousand years ago as a humble servant. And he is coming again, as a victorious conquering King. And in his second coming, there is great hope to be found.

Jesus said to his disciples in John 14...

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"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. (John 14:1-3 ESV)

**He is coming again. And when He comes, Rev. 21 says that he will:**

"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." (Revelation 21:4 ESV)

**One of my favorites:**

"No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; For the youth will die at the age of one hundred." (Isaiah 65:20 ESV)

**So What does his coming again mean for us?**

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**Jesus coming again means for us:**

- **Eternal Life** (A time when that final enemy "death" is finally and forever done away with. And we know, that if we died with Him, then we know that we shall also live with him)
- **Eternal Restoration** (When everything and everyone in creation is restored to its intended purpose and design)
- **Eternal Prosperity** (A time when we will experience the fullness of the riches of His glory. When we will be more satisfied than ever as we receive our full inheritance and inherit God.)
- **Eternal Satisfaction** (A time when we will want for nothing, and lack no good thing. And a time when disappointment and discouragement are no longer even in our vocabulary.)
- **Eternal Health** (A time of no more sickness or disease)
- **Eternal Rest and Peace** (A time where we are no longer tired, or having to strive, fight or wrestle. A time when we won't have to continually take off our heavy burdens to exchange them for the easy yoke of Jesus ,because every heavy burden will be done away with. A time when anxiety and fear are not even a distant memory.)
- **Eternal Joy** (A time when all sadness is gone forever. All depression is done away with. Heart ache. No more tears. No more pain)
- **Eternal Glory** (we are heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that **we may also be glorified with him**)

- **Eternal Victory** (A time when there will be failing or falling short; no more struggling with the temptations of sin and resisting the temptations of the devil. It will be a time of effortless victory.)
- **Eternal Justice** (a time when every wrong will be righted. And for those who haven't trusted in Jesus, every sin will be forever and permanent dealt with)
- The fact that Jesus came two thousand years ago, and is coming again, means all of this for us. And **this** is the hope that we have. This is the hope that does not disappoint.
- Both what Christ's **first** coming tells us about who God is, and who we are, and what His **second** coming tells about what is to come.
- We can EXPECT this. Biblical hope is not a just wishful thinking. It is a confident expectation. When the Bible says, "Hope in God!" it does not mean, "Cross your fingers." It means, to use the words of William Carey, 'Expect great things from God.'

**But we have to fight for it.** Everything in our culture says, "Hope in this. Hope in that." Our own flesh deceives us. We have to constantly fight for this kind of hope. Like John Piper said.

"Hoping in God does not come naturally for sinners like us. We must preach it to ourselves, and preach diligently and forcefully, or we will give way to a downcast and disquieted spirit."  
- John Piper

Is your spirit disquieted within you? Are you disappointed? Hope in God. Say to your downcast soul, like the Psalmist did, "Hope in God."

- I know that some of you have come here this morning feeling very much, without hope.
- And I just need to say, there is One in whom you can trust and hope this morning.
- And I don't know what you're desired destination is. And He may not bring you to that desired destination. But he will bring you to himself, which I can tell you from personal experience, is a better destination — the best one you'll ever find.

#### **Out:**

- Guys, this season there is going to be a lot demanding our attention, and our affections.
- And there will be many things we may be tempted to place our hope in.
- All of which are about as stable as Santa Clause.
- **The only thing** is this life that is actually worth putting our hope in, is Jesus.
- So, this season, when anxiety begins to bubble up... this season when you feel the pressure coming closer... when you feel yourself become greedy, and consumed with Christmas lists and entertaining people... remember Jesus.
- Let us, people of God, remember and look back to the **gift** of God lying in that manger — can we commit to every time we see a gift under a tree, to remember the babe in the manger (the gift of God).

- Can we commit to every time we see a Christmas **light** to remember the light of the world who walked the streets of Jerusalem....
- And every time we see a Christmas tree, can we remember the tree where Jesus hung — and let it remind of us of our **savior** who died and rose from the dead?
- And as we sense anticipation and excitement in the air for the coming of Christmas morning, can we remember the hope and expectation we have in the soon return of the **victorious** King who is coming again?
- We get choose, this season (and every season for that matter) intimacy or distance with our Heavenly Father. And though we may not purposefully choose distance, the truth is, when we turn our affections and hope to something other than Christ, we alienate ourselves from the Father, in a way.
- But when we choose to turn our hope and affections toward Christ we have made a choice to draw near to him where we find intimacy and hope. So let's choose intimacy and hope this this season. Amen?

**I want to close with the lyrics to this old Hymn:**

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My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.