



Thank you for downloading
CQ Rewind - Summary Only Version!

Each week, the **Summary Only** version provides you with approximately 4 pages of brief excerpts from the program, along with Scripture citations.

If you would like to receive the
CQ Rewind FULL EDITION at no charge, simply sign up at
www.ChristianQuestions.net.

The **FULL EDITION** of approximately 10-12 pages includes comprehensive excerpts from the program, fully quoted Scriptures, graphics, illustrations, and even extra study points that time prevented us from covering during the live program.



Where Can We Find True Hope?

Romans 5:5: (NASB) ...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.



When we look around us these days, what do we see? The world is on fire with social unrest, the financial markets are riding tidal waves of volatility, our national debt is about 900 miles high, unemployment just doesn't seem to go away and to top it off, the average person seems far more restless and unhappy than ever before! We have all heard the saying "hope for the best," but the best of *what*? And what does it mean to hope? Stay with us as we look into hope - what it is, how it works, and how it can truly be a positive and life- changing experience in such a troubled world.

What is hope?

Hope literally means, "desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment."

Desire + Expectation Biblical definition of hope:

Hope: Strong's #1680 elpis (el-pece'); expectation (abstractly or concretely) or confidence
KJV-- faith, hope. Expectation + Confidence

As we go through most of our audio clips today a key question will be, does this audio instill hope or not?

According to Wikipedia, Noam Chomsky is an American linguist, computer scientist, philosopher cognitive scientist, and activist. He is an Institute Professor and Professor (Emeritus) of in the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy at MIT. Chomsky has been active in left-wing politics.



Christians are anti-Semitic, Noam Chomsky, Naked Emperor news

- *If you have Armageddon then the souls that are saved rise to heaven and Jesus Christ comes for 1,000 years of peace.*
- *The Pro-Israel Christian right are the most anti-Semitic people in the world. They want all Jews to be exterminated, except for 144,000 who are somehow converted.*

Does this type of statement build up hope? True hope is transformative. Does true hope drive us to do things that we wouldn't normally do?

Romans 5:1-5: There is a cause and effect relationship shown here.

Verses 1-2: These are some of the things that drive us:

- Justification (meaning "made right") by faith brings us peace with God through Jesus. In such a world as this, peace with God is a very good thing,
- Peace with God brings access to God's grace. We can rely on something bigger than our circumstances,
- God's grace brings us the opportunity to exult the hope of God's glory! This was one of the promises given to the followers of Jesus - that the followers would be like him.

Verses 3-5: Back to the practical living aspect:

- Because of the spiritual promises, we now KNOW tribulation brings perseverance,
- Perseverance brings proven character,
- Proven character brings HOPE,
- This hope lives up to expectation because it is driven by God's love and spirit! It comes through our development and transformation to become more Christ-like.

Is a wish different than a hope?

A wish is defined as: to have a desire for (as something unattainable), such as, he *wished* he could live his life over. In contrast, hope is defined as: a desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment.

Both things look "beyond what is," but hope is an exercise in expectation, not just an exercise in imagination. Don't confuse the two.



"When you wish upon a star, makes no difference who you are, anything your heart desires will come to you. If your heart is in your dream, no request is too extreme, when you wishd upon a star as dreamers do..."
- Jiminy Cricket

Matthew 7:8: (NASB) There is action involved - asking, seeking, knocking. You have to do something to receive something. This is what true hope is based upon.

James 4:1-3: We start out with Jiminy Cricket and we end up with this? When you are too focused on yourself, you can't see the bigger picture. Life gets in your way. Part of true hope is driving towards something so big that it helps to drive you beyond yourself.

Suzie's dashed hopes, *Miracle on 34th Street*

- *It doesn't matter, I didn't get it. I knew it wouldn't be here... You couldn't get it because you're not Santa Claus, you're just a nice old man with whiskers like my mother said and I shouldn't have believed you...*

We need to be mature enough as Christians to follow after Christ and take action, not just sit back and hope he will take care of us.

Our hope should provoke great self-discipline: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27: The Apostle Paul tells us to focus! Hope provokes us to:

- not run aimlessly, but with direction;
- not fight pointlessly; and
- captivate our very selves towards its fulfillment.

Hope KNOWS what it is looking for: Ephesians 1:18-19

Wrong hopes: Job 31:24-28: Gold is not to be the hope of our lives. We are looking for something bigger than this.

Wall Street sell-off August 9, 2011, *Euronews, The Blaze*

- *...with investors full of fear with the state of the U.S. economy and high levels of public debt.*

The stock market is incredibly unsettling. Does this volatility bring us hope? Is this where our final, truest hopes are or should they be in something bigger?

2 Chronicles 7:14: This gives the essence of what this program is about. True hope has a condition attached where if we fulfill that condition, we can firmly expect something in return.

Consequences of wrong hopes: (selfish hope for revenge, coveting, etc.) Job 8:11-15: Your hope has to have a solid basis. The hope of the godless will end because it is not eternal. Hoping in God is very different than hoping in the stock market! **Foundations of a true hope:** Hebrews 11:1 Titus 1:1-2: God made a promise, so there is true hope. True hope must be based on faith because although God's promises are eternal, they are not immediate.

Hebrews 6:13-18

Elements of the above-stated hope:

- God's promise - therefore it is going to happen.
- The unchangeable character of His purpose. We change our minds, but God's purpose does not change.
- It is impossible that God would prove false.
- We who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us.
- We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul. This gives us the greatest sense of security, because the anchor can hold firm regardless of the currents of the world.



If who God is makes a difference as to how firm our hope can be, then who we are makes a difference in our fostering hope to one another...

What tells us that our hope is sure?

Isaiah 55:7-11: First, if we return to God, we will receive compassion and forgiveness. He then assures us that He has everything under control. Not only is our hope as sure as the word of God, but it stands in an open invitation for all to join! True hope transforms everything in our lives - it is beyond just an emotion.



London Riots, AP News, British Prime Minister David Cameron

- These are sickening scenes of people looting, vandalizing, robbing, scenes of people attacking police officers and even attacking fire crews trying to put out fires. I have this very clear message for those people...you will feel the full force of the law. If you are old enough to commit these crimes, you are old enough to face the punishment.*

Why do people do this? They feel hopeless. We, however, have a basis that tells us our hope is sure: 2 Timothy 3:14-17: The Apostle Paul is writing to Timothy, his spiritual son. He tells him to build his hope in that which Timothy grew up with. The bottom line foundational principle of true hope is the tangible word of God. The hope we are given also gives us the tools to accomplish it.

The next audio clip is from the Hope Experience. Hope Experience merges the best parts of a youth camp with the active service of an intentional "missions" camp. Participants are split into "crews" and are sent out to various initiatives all throughout the Memphis, TN, community. Their goal is that each crew rotates between initiatives on a daily basis, giving each student an opportunity to experience all the different initiatives. This engages young people in positive action within the community.



I love little kids, 2011 Soft Highlight, The Hope Experience

- I love seeing kids smile. I have wanted to be a kindergarten teacher for such a long time. I love experiencing laughter and smiles with little kids. They are just so innocent and fun...it makes you forget that the world is hard. It makes you realize that being a kid and not having to worry all the time is so much fun and it's ok to do that.*

Kids have incredible enthusiasm for the opportunities in front of them. We should be like that with God. "Do you know what My plan will reveal next?" We should be excited about what He has in store for us. We have so much to be hopeful about.

Can a wish become a hope?

Our hope should regulate our behavior beyond our conscience: James 2:18-20: There is action involved in living with true hope. Belief is not enough - even the demons know God and believe in Him. We should live our faith in the way that shows our hope. The world around us does not bring us hope because there are so many things going wrong.



Parents watch! Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, Fox News, August 2011

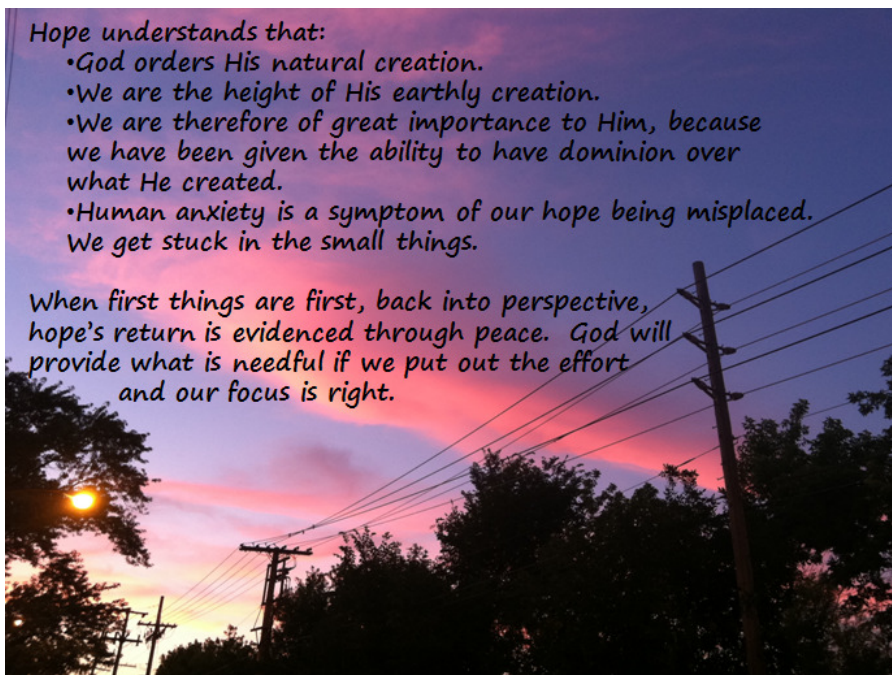
- ...That's when 20-30 kids, one as young as 11 years old descended...punching, beating and robbing innocent bystanders. One victim beaten so bad he landed in the hospital with a fractured skull. The Mayor takes aim at the parents: Parents who don't know where their children are, don't know what they're doing, don't know who they're hanging out with, you are going to find yourselves spending some quality time with your kids in jail. Just giving them cash - that's not being a father. That's a human ATM.*

Why did we open this program with the statement: "...our national debt is about 900 miles high...?" If you took \$1,000 bills and stacked them four inches high, you would have \$1 million. If you stack those same bills up 33 feet high, you would have \$1 billion. \$1 trillion would be a 65-mile high stack! Our national debt is over \$14 trillion, so it would be over a 900-mile stack of \$1,000 bills.

Driving from Connecticut to Chicago (about 900 miles) takes about 16 hours. If you laid a stack of \$1,000 bills alongside your car the whole way, this gives you a sense of the size of our hopelessness. Our hope is in the character and plan of God, and should lift us above our daily concerns of life.



Matthew 6:25-34



I wish the ring had never come to me, *Frodo and Gandalf, Lord of the Rings*

- *Frodo: I wish the ring had never come to me, I wish that none of this had ever happened.*
- *Gandolf: So do all who live to see such times, but that is not for them to decide. All you have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to you.*

Really, all we have to do is decide what to do with the time that is given to us.

Our hope should lift our perspective beyond the moment of difficulty: 1 John 3:1-3: This promise should generate an excitement in us, as it gives us tremendous, real expectation. Transformational hope comes from living one day at a time, living the will of God. That's hard, but it's worth it.

Hope says that we don't need to know everything - we just need to know what has been given to us and we are responsible for only that.

Where does true hope bring you?

Our hope should guide us in faith to the unseen: Even though sometimes God's blessing comes through trial and difficulty, blessing is inevitable.

Our hope should prepare us for the difficulty of the road set before us: Philippians 3:12-14

Our hope should always keep the "why" before our eyes: 1 Timothy 4:10: There are two different parts of salvation - there is a message of hope for all men, and especially to those that believe. 1 John 2:2: That presents great and deep hope. We are redeemed! We should feel relieved that we have an open door for communication with God through Jesus.

Micah 4:1-5: These include nations that aren't Godly now, but they will be in the future. This is full of great and deep hope - nation not lifting up sword against nation. There is a sense of finality with a "happily ever after" ending. There is great hope for the future of all mankind. We can find real hope if we follow the will and the way of God.

**So where can we find true hope...?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!**