Hope Is Astounding

Countless times no doubt, you have heard the term cling to hope used, often by news reporters as they deliver breaking news or speak of an ongoing situation. The term means that the person is maintaining belief in a positive outcome or possibility of improvement despite difficult or challenging circumstances (Google AI). Hope is an astounding thing. How is it that one can cling to that which seemingly goes against the odds, physically? Apply this mindset now to spiritual circumstances.

Hope is a necessary must in the life of the Christian. In fact, the Apostle Paul makes this point clear as he writes to the Christian's in Rome. "For we are saved in this hope, but hope that is not hope..." (Romans 8:24). Paul is talking about spiritual hope, for the hope that we cannot see is God and His Heaven. He continues, "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope" (Romans 15:4). The Christian's spiritual hope is based upon the evidence of that which the Christian has not seen physically (Hebrews 11:1). Yet, it is this hope, provided by God's Word that allows us to push forward through this physical life. We can rest assured in God's Word because God offered His Son as the guarantor, having paid the price for our salvation. The hope that God assures us of in His Word - hope that is unwavering because of our guarantor - is seen clearly in His Word. Christian's have:

- The hope of the glory of God (Romans 5:2)
- The hope of His calling (Ephesians 1:18)
- The hope of righteousness (Galatians 5:5)
- The hope of the Gospel (Colossians 1:23)

- The hope of salvation (1 Thessalonians 5:8)
- The hope of eternal life (Titus 1:2 & Titus 3:7)

We cling to this hope by listening to and following to the same admonition Paul gave Timothy. "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of... you have know the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through Jesus faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good word" (2 Timothy 3:14-17).

The faithful Christian has the same hope as Paul, writing, "Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge, will give me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing" (2 Timothy 4:8). Cling to that hope because that hope is fact.