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THERE IS HOPE! (Ecclesiastes 9:4)

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February 15, 2021

Dear Friends,

During the last weeks of 2020, I felt impressed of the Lord to present the theme of HOPE during the first part of the New Year! I have already used this theme in my preaching a few times, but now in January and February we have had three cancellations due to the snow every weekend.

Please take a few minutes to read and ponder this portion of Psalm 78.

1. **Give ear, O my people, to my law;** Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings (proverbs) of old,
3. Which we have heard and known, and **our fathers have told us.**
4. We will not hide *them* from their children, **telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,** and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.
5. For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel,
Which **He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children;**
6. That **the generation to come** might know *them*, The **children who would be born,**
That they may arise and declare them to their children,
7. **That they may set their hope in God,** And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments....

I am using **bold** type to emphasize some key phrases in this magnificent passage of Holy Scripture, describing the foundation of true education. By giving this passage careful consideration, we gain some understanding of why these times have turned so turbulent, and why so few actually have their **HOPE** established in the Lord.

Most people have not been taught the Praises of the Lord. They have NOT been taught of His matchless strength, power, authority, and sovereignty. They have NOT been taught of His wonderful works. Therefore, they have not “set their hope in God,” have forgotten His Works, and are not keeping His commandments. But there is HOPE!

Our true hope in 2021, is exactly the same as it has always been! Our hope is only in the Lord Jesus Christ, our Creator, Redeemer, and sustainer. Our hope has never been in mere political reform, new laws, new government programs, etc. Our HOPE is in a revival of obedience to God’s Word, the daily application of its principles, and the proper godly training of the next generations.

RIGHT NOW, we are in a transition to some more efficient procedures in the preparation and distribution of our newsletters. For instance, with small household printers, the preparation of hundreds of envelopes can be a major hassle, time consumer, wasted materials, and reduced quality. The envelopes you have received today are professionally printed, and we HOPE to be using better printing for the newsletters themselves, and more cost-efficient mailing in the near future.

Considering the limitations and restrictions related to the Coronavirus pandemic, I believe it is good for ministries to explore new ways of circulating the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and for supporters of God’s work to be sure to stay in the battle for Truth.

SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP: Be sure the address we have for you is up-to-date, and totally correct. Post Offices are not as diligent as they used to be about forwarding first class mail, or sending address corrections.

BE SURE OUR ADDRESS IS CORRECT IN YOUR RECORDS: Through the decades, since 1982, we have had at least four addresses at this same location! Almost five years ago our area’s postal addresses were updated to correspond with the Enhanced 911 emergency system. Be sure you have the address we print on our letterheads. 1458 Henson Road.

CHECK OUT OUR “ONLINE NEWSLETTERS.” Some of our most recent newsletters are available at http://www.eagleswings.net/Missionary_Newsletter2.html A couple of these from last spring include more pictures and information than we were able to send any other way, so we have left them online as a pretty thorough summary of our Papua New Guinea work.

IF YOU WOULD RATHER RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL, or links to online updates, please let us know. Send us email addresses, postal addresses, or share our newsletters with others who might be interested in our work.

REMEMBER THAT GOD’S WORK IS BEARING FRUIT AROUND THE WORLD because people like you are praying and giving to make it possible. We deeply appreciate those of you who support our ministries. If you need a receipt for your 2020 giving, please let us know.

“Now may the **God of hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may **abound in hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

In the Harvest,

David and Crystal Hersman