

**“OUR LIVING HOPE”**  
**1 PETER 1:1-9,**  
**(LUKE 24:1-12)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

One of the great stories of survival is about Alexander Selkirk, who in the early 1700s spent over 4 years on an uninhabited island in the Pacific and lived to tell the tale. He was left marooned after a quarrel with the captain with only the contents of his sea chest and a life of solitude. After being rescued by a passing ship he was taken off to safety. The story was later made famous through the fictional character Robinson Crusoe.

## **FEELING ISOLATED AND LONELY**

Peter was a fisherman by trade. Jesus said he would be called Cephas (**John 1:42**). In Peter's epistle he addressed the pilgrims who were scattered, feeling isolated, cutoff and lonely. Peter wanted to give them perspective and get them refocused, and help them in their trials and through their trials. Peter wanted to make them "little rocks". In our trials, we live off of our supplies, but God has no limits!

Trials are useful to us. They tell us about the depth and reality of what we value. What am I trusting in? Fire removes the impurities of precious metals. For us, it can deal with our character, selfishness, indifference and immaturity. Trials help us sober up to realize what is really important.

## **HOPE THROUGH THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS**

Christians have real hope, Biblical hope. Not just, "I hope so". Even in the midst of our experience with the Corona virus, many events and venues have been cancelled or closed. Now the more important things remain. The view of the Christian is optimism and confidence in what God will do! Our supply is from Him!

Our inheritance is not affected by sin and won't change. We are kept or guarded by the Lord. When our faith survives till the end it will praise, honor and glorify Jesus. There are times that we are in a trial and heaviness, yet rejoicing. When this is all done, we will receive the salvation of our souls!

## **CONSIDER**

We have a Living Hope that enables us! It not only anchors us, but pulls us through it all! As we trust in the power of the risen Christ, we have a Living Hope! Through Him we have deliverance, safety and preservation. This is shown over and over through the Bible history with the lives of Eve, Abraham, Noah Esther, Daniel and more. **Hebrews 11** is a testimony to God's faithfulness.

We have a Living Hope! Some hopes and dreams may end up being a great disappointment, such as a marriage, career, house or even the expectation of children. Even when we get what we hope for, it only ends up being temporary. The results are empty pursuits, unfulfilled dreams and shattered hopes. But Jesus is living and indestructible! He is the miraculous source, resurrected from the dead! He defeated death, our greatest fear!

Jesus is our supply in the born again life. We need to spend time with Him. It's like the spring coming out of the ground. **John 4:14**. We are born again to living hope and an inheritance that includes God Himself! Someday Christians will have a new bodies, new names, new capacities and new responsibilities. At that time we will be painless, without fear and anxiety free! *Lord, may You come quickly!*

## **PRAY.....**

- \* That the message of the Resurrection would give us hope all year, not only once a year.
- \* That God's wisdom would be granted to our government leaders.
- \* That we would have a better understanding of the Holy Spirit through the teaching of Acts.