

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Those who saw Jesus being crucified thought that “Hope” died with Jesus on the cross.
Hope of the Messiah ruling and reigning here on the earth.
Hope of a Leader that truly loved and cared about the people.
Hope of a healer and provider.
Hope of eternal life.

I mean, we have all lost hope at one time or another.
Hope in a relationship.
Hope in a check coming in the mail.
Hope of a better life.
Hope of a better marriage or relationship.
Hope of having kids or a spouse or both.
Hope of healing for someone or even ourselves.
Hope of _____ (you fill in the blank)

Yet, we seem to forget the truth, and that is that “Hope” was accomplished on the cross. Yet those who saw Jesus die on the cross did not know that. We know it because we have read the story and know that Jesus rose from the dead three days later. But they did not remember this, even though Jesus told them that He would rise from the dead three days later.

† **Mark 9:31-32** *For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day." But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him.*

Yet we think, “How could you guys not know or understand. You saw Jesus feed 5,000 men, heal the lepers, the blind, the deaf, the dumb and lame. You even saw Jesus raise several people from the dead, including Lazarus who was dead for four days.”

But how many things has the Lord done in our lives over the years, even when we were not saved yet?

How many things have we seen over the years that Jesus did in the lives of others?

How many things have we told others about, that Jesus has done in our life over the years?

How much has our lives changed for the better since we gave our life to Jesus?

Yet, we all, like the disciples, have lost all hope at one time or another, or even have had our hope dwindle down to “Maybe God will.” Hope is not a “maybe” or “it might happen,” hope is

“it will happen” because, if God said it will happen, then it will, not “might,” but “will” happen. Maybe not in our timing, but in God’s perfect timing.

Jesus said He would rise from the dead after three days, because God said that He would, and He did.

God said He would provide for us; therefore, we never think God “may” supply, but that He “will” supply, and He has all these years.

God said that He will answer our prayers that are according to His will, and we testify that He has answered those prayers.

And most importantly, according to God’s word, we know that God can not lie... which is HOPE!

† **Titus 1:2** *“In hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began.”*

† **Psalm 39:7 (NLT2)** *And so, Lord, where do I put my hope? My only hope is in you.*