

LEGITIMATE HOPE FOR 2021 AND BEYOND

January 3, 2021

KEY SCRIPTURES

- [Romans 15:13](#)
- [2 Corinthians 1:3](#)
- [Psalms 68:19-20](#)
- [Matthew 1:19-25](#)
- [Matthew 2:13-15](#)
- [Romans 8:28-38](#)

KEY POINTS

- People always hope but so much of what we hope for does not materialize, leading to disappointment and despair.
- Biblical hope is anchored in a promise made by the ultimate Promise Keeper, the *God of Hope*, and is better defined as a certainty, just not yet fully realized.
- The God of Hope wants His people to be abounding in hope (hope on steroids), having been filled with His Spirit.
- God allows lesser dreams and hopes to fade or even shatter in order to help us discover a higher dream: our desire for God.
- Having Christ in one's life does not stop pain, disappointment, grieving or suffering. But to suffer with Him will result in being glorified with Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are you hoping for this year that you know is a guaranteed certainty?
2. Do you recognize the fading or shattering of a lesser dream being replaced with a higher one? Explain.
3. How does it affect you to learn things about God's character, that He is "the God of Hope" or "the God of All Comfort (one coming alongside of you to give strength)?"