

No. 62 Where Can You Find Real Hope?

PLEASE NOTE: Keep in mind that some in attendance may be unfamiliar with the Bible and skeptical of its trustworthiness. If you wish, you may use the provided artwork to illustrate the points indicated. This talk includes a video

WE NEED REAL HOPE (3 min.)

All of us must deal with suffering and tragic events (Job 14:1, 2; Ec 9:11)

At such times, a hope for the future can strengthen and stabilize us

The Bible holds out the only real hope for relief from suffering

As we shall see, this hope is not wishful thinking; rather, it is based on solid evidence

Let us consider (1) why there is so much suffering, (2) what hope the Bible gives, and (3) why you can trust the Bible's hope

WHY IS THERE SO MUCH SUFFERING? (7 min.)

Our loving Creator, Jehovah God, never purposed for humans to experience suffering and death

Satan influenced the first human pair, Adam and Eve, to rebel against God, with disastrous consequences (Ro 5:12; 8:22; g21.1 10)

God does not cause our suffering, but he has temporarily permitted it *"on the basis of hope"*

[Read Romans 8:20] (w03 9/1 10-11 ¶10-14)

Jehovah is eager to bring relief to mankind (Jer 29:11)

He will soon end suffering and undo the harm caused by Satan (Ro 8:21)

WHAT HOPE DOES THE BIBLE GIVE? (8 min.)

God will relieve mankind's suffering by means of his Kingdom (Da 2:44; Mt 6:10)

What will take place under the rule of God's Kingdom? **[Read Revelation 21:3, 4]** [Image 1]

The entire world will experience genuine peace (Ps 37:10, 11; 72:7, 8)

Millions who have died will be resurrected to a paradise earth (Isa 25:8; Ac 24:15)

Humans who love God will enjoy everlasting life (Ro 6:23)

God will remove the pain caused by memories of tragic events (Isa 65:17)

WHY CAN YOU TRUST THE BIBLE'S HOPE? (7 min.)

The Bible is unique; it gives every evidence of being "inspired of God" **[Read 2 Timothy 3:16]**

The Bible is up-to-date and relevant for our times

Although not a science textbook, the Bible is accurate when discussing nature (g17.3 4)

Although not a self-help book, the Bible has helped millions to cope with anxieties (wp16.1 15)

The Bible contains a record of fulfilled prophecy

The Bible foretold the fall of mighty rulerships and cities (g17.3 5)

The Bible describes the attitudes of people today in striking detail (2Ti 3:1-5)

Based on this evidence, you can confidently trust God's promises for the future (Isa 46:10)

STRENGTHEN YOUR TRUST IN THE BIBLE'S HOPE (5 min.)

By "carefully examining the Scriptures," you can strengthen your trust in the Bible's hope (Ac 17:11)

[Invite the audience to watch a three-minute video of individuals who found real hope by studying the Bible with Jehovah's Witnesses. Afterward, highlight how they benefited by gaining hope]

The Bible describes hope as an anchor, "both sure and firm" (Heb 6:19; km 7/07 1 ¶3)

Despite problems now, you can look to the future with joy and confidence, knowing that the hope found in the Bible will soon become reality

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section.
Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Reminders for Those Assigned Public Talks* (S-141)]

TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

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S-34-E No. 62 9/22