December 17, 2023

**A Vintage Christmas: Part 2**

**The Hope of the World**

**Hosea 2:15**

• This is God’s Word.

• It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction.

• It has God for its author,

• salvation for its end,

• and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.

• It is the supreme source of truth

• for what we believe

• and how we live.

**I will return her vineyards to her and transform the Valley of Trouble into a gateway of hope… Hosea 2:15**

**There’s no place worse than the state of HOPELESSNESS.**

**My life drags by—day after hopeless day. Job 7:6 (TLB)**

**It seems so tragic that everyone under the sun suffers the same fate…they choose their own mad course, for they have no hope. Ecclesiastes 9:3**

**There’s ONLY WAY out of**

**the state of hopelessness!**

**And his name will be the hope of all the world.” Matthew 12:21**

**In those days you were living apart from Christ…You lived in this world without God and without hope. Ephesians 2:12**

**Jesus is the hope of ALL the WORLD!**

**Our hope isn’t FULLY realized in this life.**

**And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. 1 Corinthians 15:19**

**We look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. Titus 2:13**

**And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. So encourage each other with these words. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

**When we truly experience this hope, we will be CHANGED!**

**Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. 1 John 3:2-3 (NIV)**