

120
134
103
456 122

HOPE
I. Pet. I:3

Dreamer of dreams! We gladly take the taunt.
Knowing that God beyond the years you see
Hath wrought those dreams that count with
With you for madness.
Into the substance of the life that is to be.

These are the words of a man who was taunted
as a visionary. That is the question. Are we
to look upon the beautiful dreams of the world's
wisest and best as visions only? Or are we to
trust God to work those things in to the sub-
stance of the life that is to be?

Hope
that
doubts

I was reading the other day and ran across
this expression: "Hope that doubts." And P.S.
42:6 was a reference. "Oh my God my soul is
cast down within me, therefore will I remember
Thee from the land of Jordan--etc." Putting his
hope in the past. That is almost dead hope. Love
is of all time, faith is of the present, but
hope is of the future.

Peter
lively
hope

But Peter comes and says text. Begotten us
again to a lively hope by the resurrection
from the dead. ~~minimizing hope~~
We are to have real hope.

pessi-
mism

T
Cruel

It would be idle to say that we have not had
a wave of pessimism in the world equally idle
to shut our eyes to the cause. A generation
that has seen many of its fairest hopes shat-
tered in the strife of nations as they settled
their differences as our ancestors settled
theirs may be pardoned if they turn to the
future with eyes from which the vision has
gone.

But whatever be the case with the church
of Christ who can point to a heathen religion
that may be called the Rel. of hope? When we
are asked where is our God and when we ask
ourselves, if God is why does He not do things?

Even a voice out of the past will help us. A man in sore distress and surrounded by taunters said "Why art thou cast down oh my soul hope thou in God." Hope in any thing else would be misdirected hope.

Hope
that
sees
power
in
the
future

There is also a hope that sees from afar. In Oxford England at New College a great sightseer they say are window pictures of the three Christian graces. The finest is the picture of hope.

G.F.Watt's representation is more significant. A girl blindfolded, sky dark, harp with broken strings, and she looks downward. On close examination you see amongst broken strings one unbroken, there is grace in her form the hood was not tightly drawn, and she sat amidst ruins but on top of the world.

If we judge the future by the past we are gone but we hope in God for better days. One characteristic of the Bible is that it has the forward outlook.

Flood—rainbow

Slavery — Redeemer

There is the hope that arrives. We speak of going into the unknown future. Much unknown but the big things we know. Life after death God in temptation etc.

Hope that conquers death. We see our loved ones die but hope pierces through the solemn tomb and lives in the resurrected life beyond the grave.

The real kernel of our hope is the coming again of our Lord. The apostles talked little about the conversion of the world but much about the personal appearance of our Lord. Oh that He might come in our hearts and if that happens to the world then the world is converted.

They did not stress heaven so much. Jno. saw heaven wherein dwelt righteousness and where light was like a stone most precious

But his longing is not all this glory but his whole heart goes up in this prayer "Come Lord Jesus." Oh if we have that desire for personal association with Jesus we will live a converted life and the world will be converted faster than for us to talk always about it.

