

Our presentation today is entitled:

We have a hope! But what is this hope based on?

First I would like to say that it is not my intention, nor desire to offend, judge or to condemn anyone with any of my presentations, but to simply present what I have found in Scripture! No one should have to sacrifice who they are, and what they believe, just because someone else has a problem with it!

Secondly, many people have lived their entire lives never realizing that our Father in Heaven has a personal name that is a necessary part of proper worship. This is the greatest cover-up in all of human history. Think about it, when my Father in Heaven, the Creator of the universe, tells me His name YHVH (Yahuwah) almost 7,000 times in Scripture, then He wants me to know His name and to call upon HIM by His name ... of course with respect.

When removing his name and replacing it with the title "LORD" - that is adding and taking away from His word. **So when I quote Bible verses in my presentations, I am trying to put His proper Hebrew name "Yahuwah", where it is supposed to be. Also the name of the Messiah, to which every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess, has been marred, changed, confused, and watered down in order to make it common and insignificant.**

HIS name is Yahshua. It is the name that the Father has given Him. Who, or what, gives us the right to change His name? Therefore, I am doing the same in my presentations, by changing the Greek name of Jesus, (which has absolutely no meaning), to use His Hebrew Name of "Yahshua," "Yeshua" or "Yahusha," which means Yahuwah saves!

**The Messiah's
Hebrew Name:
Yeshua or Yahshua?**

I also will be using the word “Torah” for the English Word “Law” in my presentations. Torah is a set of holy Instructions given by YHVH as a blueprint for righteous moral living that carries both a blessing for those who observe it, and a curse for those who oppose it.

Torah is the first five books of the Holy Scriptures; Genesis through Deuteronomy. The word “Law” in English appears 299 times in the Old Testament. 206 times it was translated from #H8451 Torah. That means 68% of the occurrences of the word “Law” is defined as “Torah!”

The Title of our presentation today is called: **We have a hope!** The reason I chose to use this title for today’s presentation is because: many sincere religious people of all faiths use this term as an expression of their belief that they will receive the gift of eternal life at the end of their journey on this earth – or - at the time of the resurrection of the just.

So, the question I have is: how do they know? ... do they even know for sure? ... do they have a sound foundation of that belief they can trust? ... or is that just what they have been taught? Since that is a question of eternal life or eternal damnation, we want to talk about it today!

Each one of us desires eternal life without sickness, stress, sorrows, disappointments and death. But we want, (and must make sure), that this hope is not a false hope, built on false premise - but a hope that someday will come true!

Most people today, no matter what denomination, faith or religion they are part of, **believe** that **their church** or religion **is the only true group**. Remember there are over 38,000 of Christian denominations, **all feeling that only they have the true hope that assures one the gift of eternal life.**

Here are a few examples:

What does Catholicism teach?

“For it is through Christ’s Catholic Church **ALONE**, which is the universal help toward salvation, that the fullness of the means of salvation can be obtained.” (*Catholicism the Second Vatican Council’s Decree on Ecumenism*)

“Infallible guidance in interpreting the Bible comes from the church.” (*Meaning the Catholic Faith*)

Is this conviction or statement of the Catholic Church based on a “Thus saith Scripture” or is it based on traditions and promises of man?

Mormonism

“This church is the only true and living church on the face of the whole earth.” “There is no salvation outside the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.”

Again the question: is their statement of belief based on a “Thus saith YHVH” or is it based on opinions and teachings of man?

Jehovah’s Witness

“We acknowledge as the visible organization of Jehovah on earth the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society.” “Outside the true Christian congregation what alternative organization is there? Only Satan’s organization ...” (*Watchtower, April 15, 1939 p. 125 and March 1, 1979 p. 24.*)

The Jehovah's Witnesses are convinced that they are the visible organization of YHVH and everyone else is damned, but do they have a “Thus saith YHVH” for their stand or is it wholly based on the opinions of man?

International Church of Christ

“There is one church! There is one God. There is one kingdom of God and this is it!” “**We’re the last hope the world has.**” (*Gordon Ferguson, Radical Men, Radical Times Hosea Radical Love of God, Manila World Leadership Conf., Aug. 1994.*)

What about this denomination? What gives them the assurance that they are it? Do they have a “Thus saith the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob” or are they basing their conviction on what some people have told them?

Seventh Day Adventists

"Since we keep all Ten Commandments and have Ellen White as our prophet, we Seventh-day Adventists are The Remnant Church!"

Here are some words from Ellen White: "In my books, the truth is stated, barricaded by a ‘Thus saith the Lord.’”

(*Adventist Review, Oct. 1, 1992, p. 23.*) “The local (SDA) church becomes the 'port of entry' to the kingdom of God.”

(*Adventist Review*, June 2, 1988, p. 9.) "... when we backslide from the church, we also backslide from God."

Seventh Day Adventists

Here is a statement by Dan O'Fall, a SDA evangelist: "The entire world is deceived today. Truth has been covered up with error. The Protestant churches have accepted the teaching of the antichrist...And so most (non-SDA) church members are in mortal danger, but don't know it. ... the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the world's last hope for rescue ..." (1994 R&H pp. 16, 18.)

What about the members of the SDA denomination? Does that membership guarantee me eternal life? Do these people have a "Thus saith the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob"? I used to believe it until I came to the conviction that this is not the case!

Was I truly redeemed as I believed for so many years and others still believe to this day or can we speak about a serious deception based wholly on man's promises?

The Philadelphia Church of God

"The "household" is God's Family or true church. It's the family that God rules. This is God's inner circle--His very elect ... we are God's only true representative on this earth." (*The Philadelphia Trumpet*, p.1 May 1995.)

Living Church of God

"LCOG is the true Church of God which teaches and practices Apostolic Christianity!"

What about these two denominations? What gives them the idea and confidence that they are the only true Church? Do they have a "Thus saith YHVH"?

Cooneyites

"We are not following some way founded in the early 1900's, but it goes clear back to Christ." "Some people say there are other fellowships that can be alright. No, there can't be, because there is only one body that Jesus had." "People can come to Christ only through us."

Iglesia ni Cristo

"Ours is the Church Christ founded." "Thus, outside the Church of Christ no one can be considered a true believer." (*PASUGO*, September/October 1981, p. 9.)

Here are two more organizations with a strong conviction that salvation can be obtained only by being a member of their group! What is their conviction based on?

Church of God in Christ, Mennonite

“God has made no covenant with any other church.” (*John Holdeman, A History of the Church, p. 20.*)

This is a very strong statement and they are very sincere and confident that they are correct. However, what gives them this assurance? Did Yahuwah give them this promise or was it given by a man?

Judaism

“Jews believe that the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the one and only true God, the Creator of the universe. He entered into a covenant with the ancient Israelites, marking them his Chosen People, giving them a mission to spread the gospel of salvation to the rest of the world.”

They obviously possess the truth of salvation! They have the word from Yahshua himself, when he said to the Samaritan woman in John 4:22 “salvation is of the Jews.” And Paul states in Romans 3:2 “unto them were committed the oracles of God.” Could these promises be conditional?

The Islam:

The Muslims claim that Islam is the only true religion that will guarantee a person eternal life and to enter paradise.

The final Prophet of Islam is reported to have said, “Anyone who says: There is no God but Allah, and dies holding that (belief) will enter paradise.”

In Qur’an 5:3 it states: “This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.”

Qur’an 3:19 “The only religion approved by God is Islam (Submission)”

Then Qur’an 3:85 “If anyone desires a religion other than Islam, never will it be accepted of Him.”

In addition, there are hundreds of different pagan religions like Buddhism, Hinduism, Shintoism, Taoism, Druidism, Shamanism, Wicca, Asatru, Neopaganism, Eclectic paganism, and traditional Native American religions etc. all are claiming to enter into some life after death!

Confusion? We probably agree that most people, which are part of these religions or Christian denominations, are sincere and mean well, but they have been taught error. Not only that, they are so convinced that they are right that they only have the truth that leads to eternal life, that most of them will shun or condemn anyone that does not agree with them, especially when they leave the church.



It has to be obvious that all these 38,000 plus groups and denominations can not be right, because there can be only one absolute truth, one true hope of eternal life! The question of course is **“What is the absolute truth, who is correct?”** Whose hope of receiving eternal life is genuine?

I personally believe the Hebrew God, of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the one and only true God, (Creator of the universe and the sustainer of life), whose name is YHVH (Yahuwah). Our hope of eternal life should never be connected with any church, organization or group - but only in Yahuwah Elohim!

I also believe that Yahusha Ha Mashiach is the only begotten Son of the Father Who has given everything into the hands of His Son - and - according to John 1:3 **“All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.”** KJV

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name (than Yahusha Ha Mashiach) under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” KJV **Again, our salvation is not connected with any man-made church or denomination!**

In John 17:3 KJV Yahusha himself made the statement saying: “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Yahshua Ha Mashiach (aka Jesus the Christ), whom thou hast sent.” Our salvation comes alone through our Father Yahuwah and His Son Yahusha Ha Mashiach!

Therefore I am quoting the Holy Scripture starting out with Hebrews 6:19-20 (NIV) **“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure...”**

When it states here “**we**” have this hope, I want to ask the question who is this “**we**” that makes this statement?



The overwhelming opinion is that the apostle Paul wrote the book of Hebrews. Paul was a Hebrew and by birth a Roman citizen.

He was also a Pharisee and the son of a Pharisee. That means he knew (by heart) and followed the Torah, or the first 5 books of the Bible as well as

the prophets and Psalms.

He was a student of the Old Testament as the New Testament was not in existence at that time. Before his conversion he was a powerful persecutor of those who accepted Yahshua Ha Mashiach (*aka Jesus the Christ*) as their Master and King. Paul believed that he was working against an enemy of his Jewish faith so he persecuted Yahusha's followers.

Let's remember Yahusha (*Jesus*) was a Jew, (and Hebrew), as His parents were Hebrews. When Paul was en route to Damascus to pursue his persecutions, Yahusha personally met him (*Acts 9:4-6*). Thereafter, Paul became a great defender of the faith, a dynamic teacher of righteousness, and a fearless preacher carrying the message of the resurrected Jewish Messiah to his own people and to the gentile world.

It was the great apostle Paul who pinned down those positive and sure words in Hebrews 6:19-20 “**We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure ...**”



The next question: “What is hope?” What does that word mean? Hope is much more than just a word. It immediately evokes feelings inside, when we hear or speak it. It is another word for confident anticipation, expectation, aspiration, desire, wish, ambition, aim, goal, plan, and optimism! Everyone needs hope! We need hope to

continue on in this world. Without hope we would surely give up in life. Having hope is vitally important to every area of our life.

You can't advance in your career without hope. You can't establish fulfilling relationships without hope. You can't discover your purpose in life without hope. You'll never reach your full potential without hope. Proverbs 13:11 states: “**Hope put off makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life.**” (NKJV)

Hope as used in the world is a **wishful FEELING** that “wants and expectations” might be met. The Wikiquote says the following about hope: **“Hope is an emotional state which promotes belief in a good outcome related to events and circumstances.”**

<http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Hope>

On the other hand, for a Bible believer (according to Scripture), **hope is a confidence and certainty** that our Heavenly Father, (the Creator), **will fulfill all He has promised in His word.** It is a feeling of belief and trust! The hope that Paul was talking about we find in Titus 1:2. (ESV)

He states **“In hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began.”**

Again in 1 John 2:15 (KJV) **“And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.”**

Or John 3:16 **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”**



In the beginning man was made, not to live just a few years and then die, but to live forever.

YHVH placed the first human couple in an earthly paradise. They were instructed to be fruitful and become many, fill the earth and subdue it. Yahuwah’s purpose was to have, in the course of time, the entire earth inhabited by a righteous human family living together in peace and happiness. – Isaiah 45:18.

Although a death sentence was imposed on Adam because of his disobedience, Yahuwah’s original purpose for humans to live forever in Paradise on earth did not change. God showed that his purpose had not changed regarding the earth when he said: **“The righteous themselves will possess the earth, and they will reside forever upon it.”** Psalms 37:29 KJV.

We had no choice about being born on this planet, but we do have a choice of where to spend eternity. God has promised us eternal life under certain conditions. This is the hope that we can have, we just need to make sure that this hope is based on a “Thus saith YHVH” and not on man’s promises.

Biblically, hope is closely allied **with faith.** The writer of Hebrews tells us that **faith is "the assurance of things hoped for"** (*Hebrews 11:1*).

Hope is the conviction that no matter the circumstances, Yahuwah's plans for our lives are "for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope" (*Jeremiah 29:11b NLT*).



The Bible is full of examples of men and women who hoped in Yah's promises. The patriarch Abraham is held up for believers as a model of hope. When Abraham was 75 years old, God promised to bless him and give him many descendants, as numerous as the stars in the sky. Abraham heard these words and believed God (Genesis 15:6). But despite his

belief, Hebrews 6:15 explains, Abraham had to wait 25 years to see the fulfillment of his hope. Yet all the while, Abraham trusted in Yahuwah, the Author of his hope, until he saw the promise come to pass. Abraham's hope was rooted in a trustworthy, unchangeable Creator, and in His eternal promises. How did Abraham do it?

How did he remain hopeful for more than two decades? Look at Abraham's relationship with God: he was a friend of God (2 Chronicles 20:7); he was also God's servant (Genesis 26:24); **he was totally obedient to Yahuwah's instructions.** (Genesis 22).



In chapter 1:9 Joshua is being encouraged by Yahuwah with the words: **"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for Yahuwah your Elohim will be with you wherever you go."** These are encouraging words that would give anyone hope and encouragement for the future!

Joshua was one of the 12 spies that went to spy out Canaan.

The outlook of ten spies after they returned was hopeless. Their report was one of gloom. They could only see:

- the problems instead of the possibilities,
- the giants instead of God
- Defeat instead of victory.

The inspired writer called it "an evil report" (13:32).

Their attitude was negative.

On the other hand, Caleb and Joshua, were very optimistic. Their report was one of hope. They saw:

- the possibilities instead of the problems,
- they looked at Yahuwah instead of the giants,
- they saw victory instead of defeat.

Caleb and Joshua "**had a different spirit**" (14:24). They trusted in the promises of a great GOD. They had faith, confidence and courage!

Listen to the words of Joshua in Numbers 13:30 (KJV) "We are well able to overcome", then in chapter 14:9 "The people are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and Yahuwah is with us ... fear them not", again in 13:30 "Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it."

Only to an individual with such a faith and trust could Yahuwah say these assuring words in Joshua 1:9 "**Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for Yahuwah your Elohim will be with you wherever you go.**" Joshua had faith and confidence in God! His hope to enter the Promised Land materialized but there was no hope for the other 10 tribes and for those that believed their negative report.



How does that apply to us today?

How does that apply to the hope that individuals of these various denominations or religions have? Think about the words of Yahshua, when he said only a "**few**" will enter and walk the strait and narrow way leading to life, while many will walk the broad way leading to destruction (*Matt. 7:13-14*).

Just having hope isn't enough, because there is such a thing **as having false hopes**. Many people live in a false hope. It is on false hopes that every casino makes its dirty money and every crook uses to lure his victims to invest in questionable

schemes. The sad thing is that the victim is as much to blame as the con-artist. While it is terrible to see people live in the false hope that their "ten dollars are suddenly going to become ten million," it is even worse to see people gamble with their souls and eternity.

People who put their trust, hope and confidence **in a religion, a church, a denomination or people that cannot save them are to be pitied**. That's why we are given the command to "**prove all things**" (*1. Thessalonians 5:21*). The only way we can prove all things is through the Scriptures starting in Genesis 1:1! **The ministers, pastors and priests who assure people**

that everything is well, when it is not, will be condemned at the end for being false shepherds.

Back in the days of wicked King Ahab, various false prophets were predicting success in battle for him in the name of YHVH: In 2 Chronicles 18:10-12 we read: (KJV) **“One of the prophets was named Zedekiah son of Kenaanah. Zedekiah made some iron horns and said to Ahab, “Yahuwah says, ‘You will use these iron horns to fight against the army of Aram. You will defeat them and destroy them.” 11. All the other prophets agreed with Zedekiah and said, “Your army should march now to go fight against the Arameans at Ramoth Gilead. You will win the battle. Yahuwah will let you defeat them.” 12. While this was happening, the officer went to find Micaiah. When he found him, the officer told him, “All the other prophets have said that the king will succeed, so you should say the same thing.” 2. *Chronicles 18:10-12 (KJV)* Did he?**

Because Ahab was lured into battle with hope of defeating his enemies, he died! Ahab believed false prophets, who filled him with false hope, which led to his DEATH! That shows us the bearer of false hope can be dangerous, especially when speaking in the name of Yahuwah. The Bible calls such people false prophets and they are likened unto ravenous wolves in sheep’s clothing (Mt. 7:15)! There are many such ravenous wolves out there today.

The disciples asked Yahusha privately in Matthew 24: 3-4 [KJV] saying “... **what shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world?”**



The very first sign he told them to watch out for was **“Take heed that no man deceive you!”** They were warned of deception four times! Remember, Satan comes as an angel of light, seeking to deceive and to destroy. Could we safely say **“take heed that no man will give you a false hope”**? In reality there are many religious hopes that people believe but that will actually send them to eternal damnation!

What about being born into a Christian Family? Will that give us assurance of eternal life? Does that make someone a child of Yahuwah? Remember, the Pharisees were trusting in their physical descent, saying they had Abraham ‘as their father’ (John 8:33) however John the Baptist warned them: **“do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham**

as our father” (Matt 3:9) And Yahusha warned them **“You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires”** (John 8:44). Then in Matthew 3:9 He warned them **“unless you are converted ... you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.”** NASB



What about being baptized and Joining a Church or Denomination, being a member in regular and good standing?

In Acts 8, after hearing the preaching of Philip (v12), Simon the magician “believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip” [joined the disciples/church]. But in verse 21 Peter told him: **“You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God”**. So being baptized and joining a church does NOT guarantee conversion.

What about having an Intellectual Understanding of the Plan of Salvation or Biblical Doctrine.

In James 2:19 (*American Standard Version*) it says: **“You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!”**

And the demons cried out to Yahshua: **“And, behold, they cried out, saying, what have we to do with thee, Yahusha, thou Son of God? Art thou come hither to torment us before the time?”** (Matt. 8:29 – KJV.)

That shows they knew who Yahusha was, that there was a judgment coming, and there is a place of torment for the wicked. Faith begins with having a correct understanding of the Gospel. However conversion is more than just having the correct facts.



What about once saved, always saved?

When people are falsely “saved” (that is) without being repentant and sorrowful for their sin and turning their lives in the other direction - we create another ear-tickling wonder to make sure that they (spiritually) sleep on contentedly in the pews. While emphasizing ‘tithing’ and attending church (in that order) the main thing now is to keep them warm and happy - convinced of their “eternal security” and giving their money to the church organization. **Truth is what people need most.** Often it is not the best news and sometimes it is very discouraging, but always vital. Remember that the devil destroys with lies. As a false hope can be deadly, truth can lead to or preserve life, especially when it is based on Bible truth, meaning the Old and the New Testament. **So the ultimate issue is NOT to be encouraging or**

the instiller of hope for the discouraged, but to report the truth (the facts). If hope isn't based on truth it is false hope, which is potentially dangerous and leads to damnation.

Yahusha warns us in Matthew 7:21-23 that there will be many false converts who are holding onto a false hope, which will send them to eternal damnation. Let's make sure that we are not trusting in a false hope, because our eternity is at stake.

Here is that sobering statement (*from the Aramaic English New Testament*), which should inspire a person to check his own soul:

“It will not be that just anyone who says to me ‘My master, my master!’ Will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but whoever does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22. Many will say to me in that day, ‘My master, my master! By your name, have we not prophesied? And by your name have we cast out demons? And by your name have we done many miracles? 23. And then I will profess to them that from everlasting, I have not known you. Depart from me, you workers of iniquity!’”
Matthew 7:21-23 (from the Aramaic English New Testament)

Here is what it states in the notes of this Bible about the word “iniquity.” Psalm 6:8 (KJV) **“Go away, you wicked people, because YHVH has heard my cries.”** **“Workers of iniquity” is a common phrase in the Tanakh. Iniquity is lawlessness, meaning being without Torah.** **“Horror has taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake Your Torah”** (*Psalm 119:53*). Each and every teaching of Yahshua is based on Torah. To be anti-Torah is to be anti-Mashiayach; therefore every “authority” will be judged according to whether they uphold Torah or not. According to Yahusha, Torah is “the will of My Father” (*Matthew 7, 21: 12:50*). Torah means instruction in righteousness.

The main problem within Christianity is, telling people that the Torah, (the instructions of YHVH in the first five books of the Bible), are no longer binding! This is a teaching coming right from the pits of hell.

Yahusha stated very plainly in Matthew 5:17-18 **“Think not that I am come to destroy the Torah, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil (meaning to do, to exalt, to magnify) 18. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.”** KJV



Most of us have been to funerals where the minister, pastor or priest assured everyone that the departed one has gone to “a better place.” Many of us have also known deep down in our hearts that it is more likely that many of the poor departed will end up in the lake of fire, because

of the evidence of their lives.

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How can we give anyone a false hope that they are saved when there is no evidence of that in their lives; when they are not in harmony with His holy law, which is His character, the constitution of His government?



Is it our job to make people feel comfortable and secure or are we to snatch souls from the flames of hell by giving them the truth of Scripture starting in Genesis 1:1? Remember God has not changed according to Malachi 3:6. Yahusha is the same yesterday, today and forever (*Hebrews 13:8*).

John 1:12 says: **“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God”** and that covers first inviting

Yahusha into your heart as our **Savior** and secondly accepting Him as our **Lord and Master**.

Most of those who ask Yahusha into their life don’t know what it means to receive HIM and to accept HIM as their **Lord and Master**. That simply means that they must be obedient to all of His instructions – the commandments, status and judgments - **no matter what**.

When we receive Yahusha into our life, we eat His flesh (*John 6:56*), because He is the living bread (*John 6:51*). He is the living word (*John 1:14*) as the word became flesh, when he became a human being 2,000 years ago. He was/is the living Torah!

"In the beginning was the Torah (the word) and the Torah (the word) was with God and the Torah (the word) was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made... In him was life and that life was the light of men... And the Torah (the word) became flesh and made his dwelling among us." John 1:1 KJV

And according to Proverbs 28:9 **"He that turneth away his ear from hearing the Torah, even his prayer [shall be] abomination."** KJV Why? Because that individual rejects Yahusha, the living Torah!

Then we have Psalm 119:155 where it states **"Salvation [is] far from the wicked (those without Torah): for they seek not thy statutes."** KJV

Did you know that Yahuwah's yearly feast days are statutes? Did you know that the two greatest commandments to **"love Yahuwah with all your heart, soul, strength and might and your neighbor as ourselves"** are statutes?



EXAMINE YOURSELF! Scripture does not give anyone easy assurances of salvation but rather instructs us to **"examine ourselves as to whether we are in the faith. Test yourselves."** (2Corinthians 13:5 – English Standard Version).

Then we have the words of the Master himself in Matthew 10:2 (KJV) stating: **"ye shall be hated of all [men] for my name's sake: but He that endureth to the end shall be saved."**

The very fact that the apostle asks such a question indicates that a follower of Yahusha must be different than an unbeliever. A Believer is not simply one who joins a church, nor makes a profession, nor does the fact that he or she consistently read the Bible makes them one. A true follower of Yahusha is someone in whom the Messiah dwells. It is someone that knows Him by experience.

And the person in whom He dwells will have certain inescapable evidence of that fact. Paul is saying that we ask ourselves if we have the evidence that Yahusha lives in us. If He does, it will show in our behavior, character and in the way we treat each other.

*It states in 1. John 2:3-5 (KJV) **"hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5. But***

whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected; hereby know we that we are in him.

So now the question: Can we know for sure that we are saved? Can we be sure that our hope of salvation is sure and genuine? Yes we can! As long as we walk as He walked, by living by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of YHVH (*Matthew 4:4; Deuteronomy 8:3*)!

Paul says: **“I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”** (2Timothy 1:12). John says **“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life.”** (1 John 5:13).

1 John 5:12 **“He that hath the Son hath life; [and] he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”**

The evidence that we have the Son, and love the Son, is walking in obedience to his commandments, statutes and judgments. (John 14:15) **“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”** Just that simple! Every commandment, statute and judgment, is a reflection of Messiah. Yahusha is the full revelation of Torah and through Him, the Torah is made alive “in and through us.”

To summarize: the assurance or our hope of eternal life has to come from two things:

First, there needs to be **internal evidence** of Yahuwah’s Spirit that we indeed belong to HIM, and have experienced a true conversion. Romans 8:16 Kkjv says: **“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”**

Then 1 John 5:10 KJV: **“He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself.”** That means we will delight and meditate in His Torah day and night (Psalm 1:2). How dare we tell people they are born again when God does not bear witness to that fact in us?

Secondly, there also needs to be **external evidence** (fruit) of the fact that we are born again, being obedient to HIS Torah, His instructions. If your life has not changed – you are not saved. If you are not following the Torah, the commandments, statutes and judgments, there is no hope that will give one eternal life. How difficult is that to understand?

Either you have the Son, or you don't! Yahusha is the living Torah. He is the Torah (*Word*) made flesh according to John 1:1-14. Being born again will be evident by new desires, new habits, new lifestyles, new values, new language, new friends, new thought patterns - **in short following the Torah**. If the fruit is rotten, the tree is rotten - simple as that. You can tell a rock as many times as you like that it is a child of God, it does not change the fact that it is still a rock.



Are we then to leave people in a state of uncertainty? Actually yes – until they find their assurance from the only One who has the right and the power to give them that assurance! **Salvation is a personal matter and decision!**

This means people will need to spend time on their knees and in the Scripture; not to depend on their so-called spiritual leaders. How can the blind lead the blind, both will fall into the ditch. (*Luke 6:39*)

We certainly do have a “hope” of receiving the gift of eternal life, if that hope is solely based on Scripture!

That means, we must have:

- repented of our past sins,
- accepted Yahshua as our Savior,
- being born again by water and the Spirit
- have Yahshua Ha Mashiach living in us through His living Word, the Torah -- **with the statutes and judgments!**

AGAIN: Yahuwah requires repentance and obedience and **that will never change!** Repentance and obedience to His **commandments, statutes and judgments are inseparable fraternal principals.**

It is my prayer that all of us will hear the words of Yahshua in Matthew 25:34 in response to our hope: **“Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”**