

THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOPE

HENRY WONG
17 SEPTEMBER 2017





Thessaloniki

Greece

100 km
100 miles

Mediterranean Sea



*Paul's Letter to the
Church at Thessalonica*



I Thessalonians

W

N



2 Thessalonians



The image shows an open Bible with the text "2 Thessalonians" overlaid in large, white, 3D-style letters. The Bible is open to a page with two columns of dense, small text. The background is a warm, golden-brown color, suggesting a wooden surface or a soft light source. The overall composition is centered and focused on the text of the Bible.

Purpose of 1 Thess

1. to encourage the Christians in Thessalonica who were making good progress in their new faith.
2. to correct misinformation about himself and his fellow missionaries that some of his critics in Thessalonica were circulating.
3. to give additional instruction that would contribute to the Thessalonians' spiritual growth.

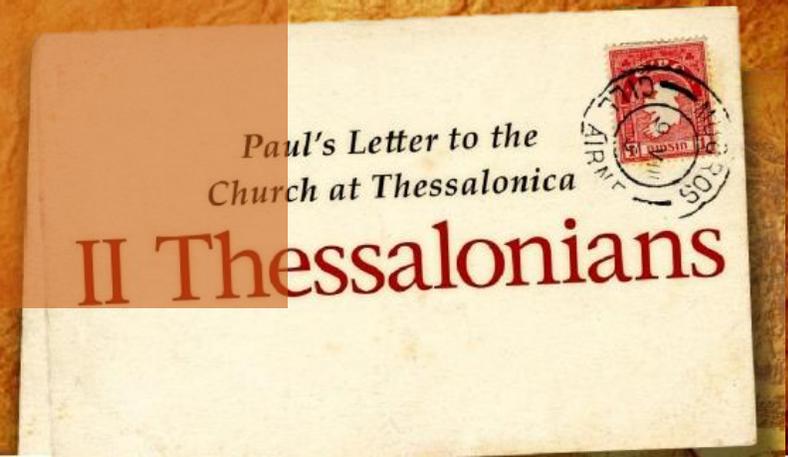
*Paul's Letter to the
Church at Thessalonica.*

I Thessalonians



Purpose of 2 Thess

1. to commend the new Christians for their growth and faithfulness
2. to correct the doctrinal error about the day of the Lord
3. to warn the idle to get back to work.



More than 25% of 1 Thessalonians and
almost 50% of 2 Thessalonians
deal with problems
and issues

1 & 2 THESSALONIANS

regarding the *parousia* or coming of
Christ from heaven.

2 Thessalonians

*Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself,
and God our Father, who loved us and
gave us eternal comfort and
good hope through grace,
comfort your hearts and
establish them in every good work and word.*

2 Thess 2: 16-17



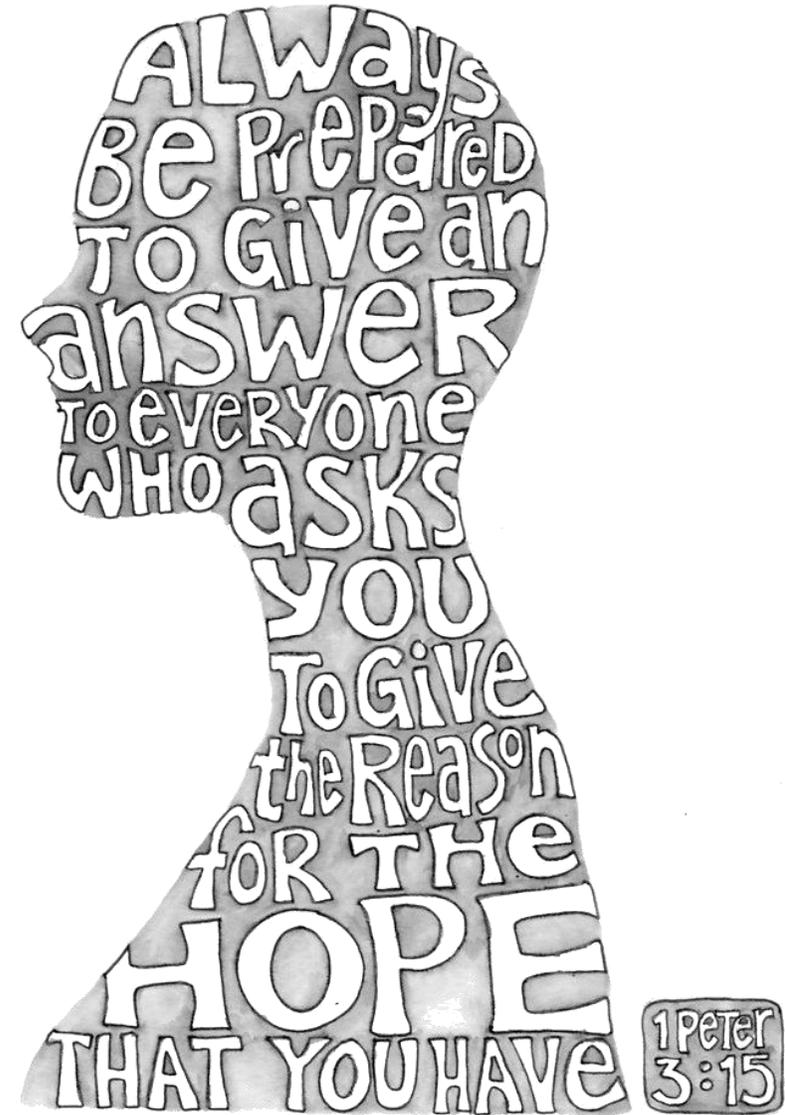
*...Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the **reason** for the **hope** that you have....*

1 Pet 3:15

Always be prepared to give an answer
to everyone who asks you to give the
reason for the hope that you have.

1 peter 3:15

1 Pet 3:15



*Now may our Lord Jesus
Christ Himself, and God our
Father, who loved us and
gave us eternal comfort and
**good hope through
grace,**
comfort your hearts and
establish them in every good
work and word.*

2 Thess 2: 16-17

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

**Now our Lord Jesus
Christ himself, and
God, even our Father,
which hath loved us,
and hath given [us]
everlasting
consolation and
good hope
through grace,**



***Not everybody has
good hope through grace***



***a GIFT to those
belonging to Christ***



Good
Hope
through
Grace

13 But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because **God chose you** as the firstfruits to be saved, through **sanctification by the Spirit** and **belief in the truth**. 14 To this He **called you** through our gospel, so that you may obtain the **glory of our Lord Jesus Christ**.

2 Thess 2: 13-14

STEPS of our **SALVATION**



1..God **chose us** from the beginning to be saved.

2..God **called us** through the gospel.

3. & 4..the Spirit is **sanctifying** us and we are **believing the truth** of God.

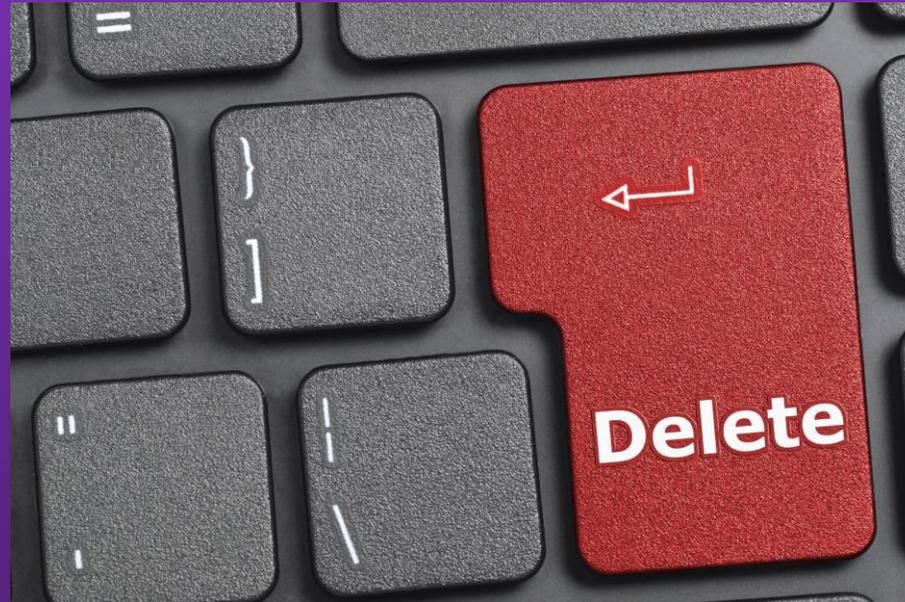
5. all this is leading us to obtain the **glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**when all
seem
hopeless?**

**10 REASONS
TO HOPE**



1. Hope moves us forward



EXPECTATION

2. Hope energizes the present



2. Hope energizes the present



ETERNAL TOMORROW

3. Hope lightens our darkness

hope .



4. Hope increases faith

..faith is the
substance of
things *hoped*
for,
the evidence of
things not seen...

Heb 11:1

faith ^{is} being sure
of what we hope for
& certain of what we
do NOT see. Heb. 11:1

© 2005 One Way Out ©
www.ChurchArtWorks.com

5. Hope is Infectious



6. Hope is healing

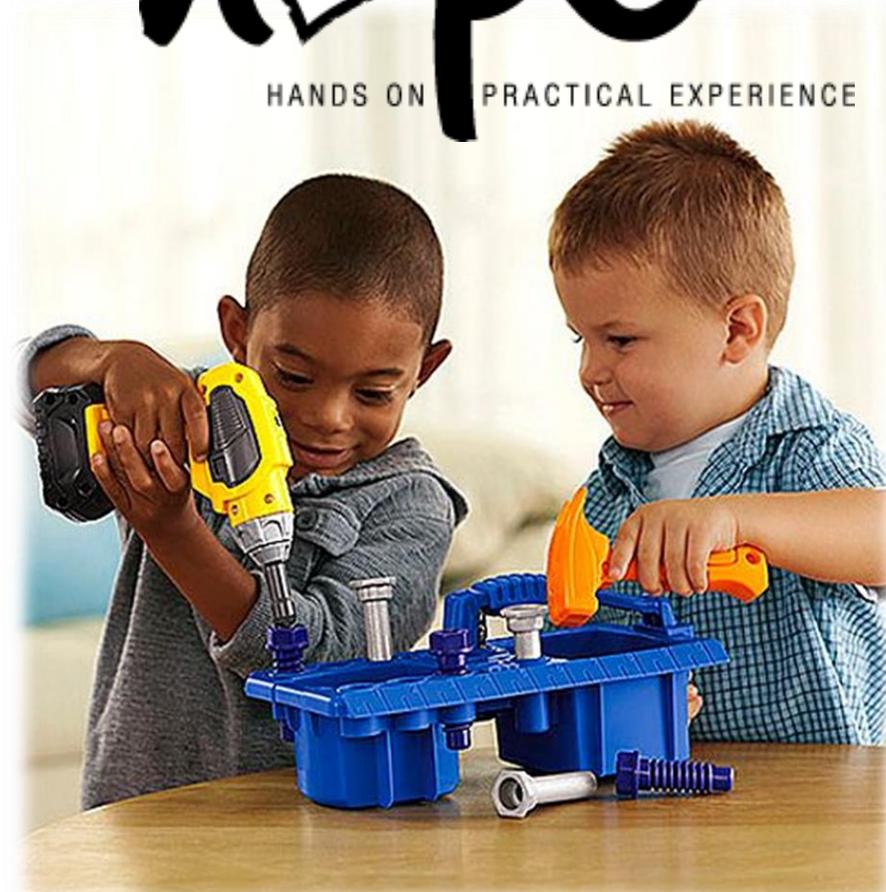


Is there no balm in Gilead
Is there no physician there?

JEREMIAH 8.22 NKJV

7. Hope is practical:

hope
HANDS ON PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE



8. Hope purifies:

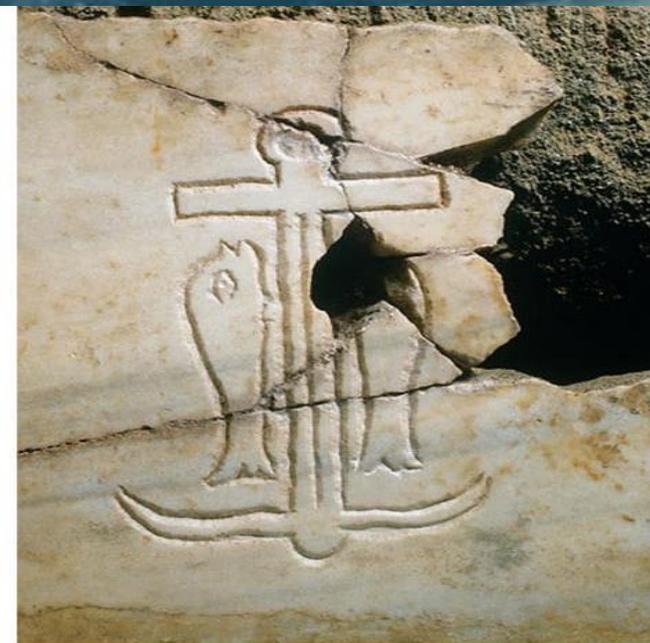
This Hope That

Purifies

“And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure”

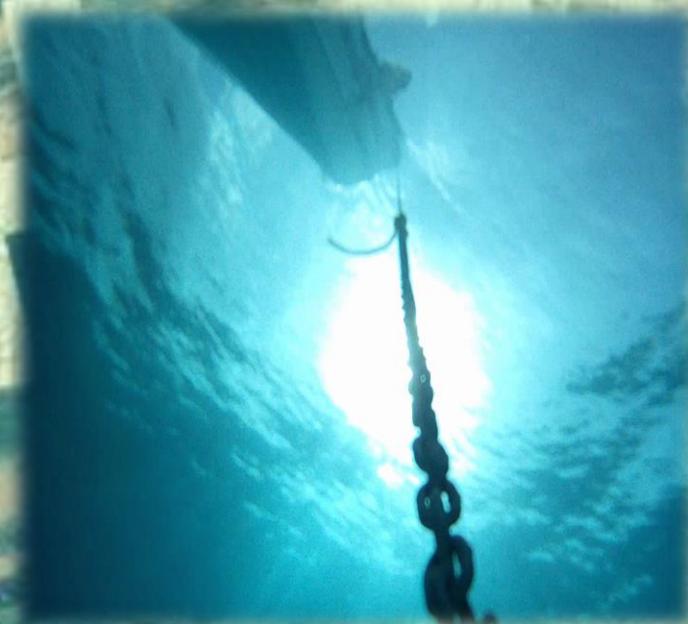
(1 John 3:1-3).

9. Hope stabilizes in the storm:



We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. (Hebrews 6:17)

9. Hope stabilizes in the storm:



HEBREWS 6:19 [NIV]

10. Hope defends

Hope



**THE HELMET
OF
SALVATION**

EPHESIANS 6:17

Also, “*the hope of salvation*” (Thess. 5:8).

The helmet of the hope and salvation reflects how the head is protected *when, elevated by hope, we look up towards heaven to that salvation which is promised. It is only therefore by*

Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in
God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

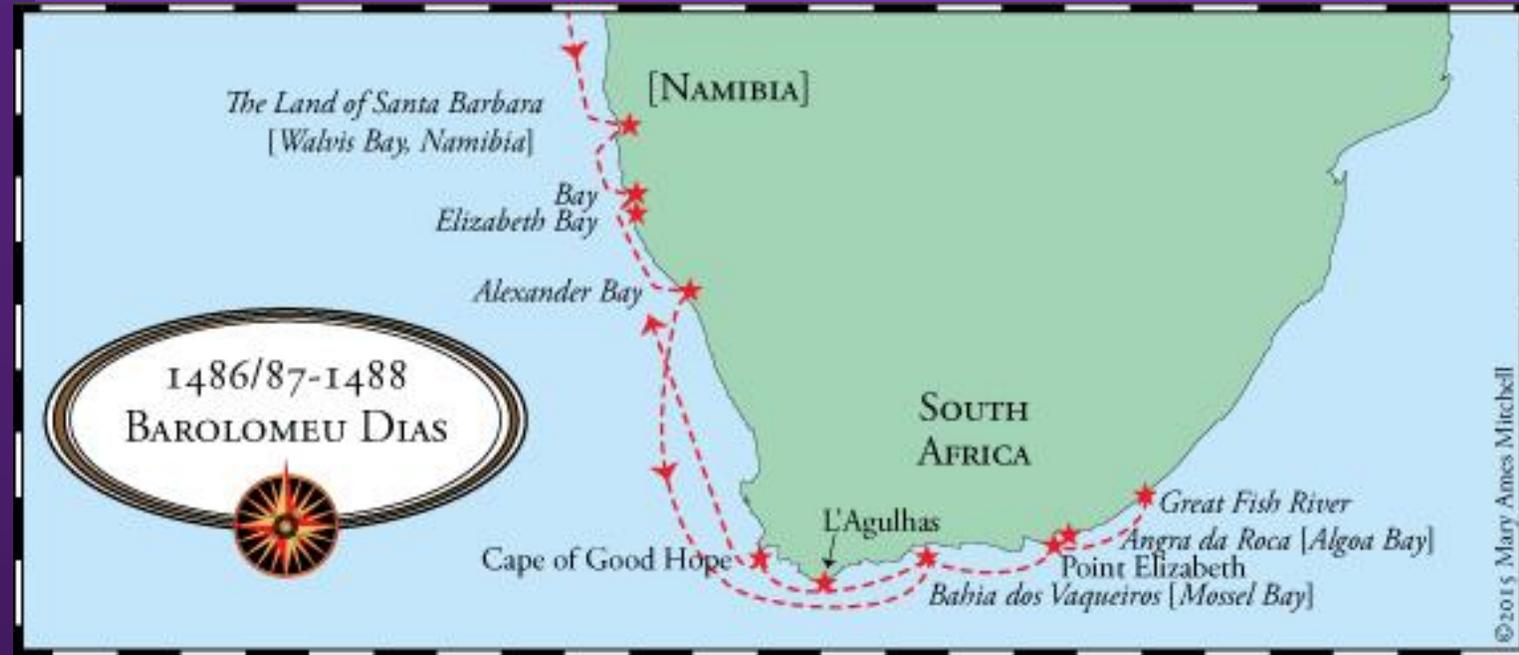
Grace and peace to you.

We always thank God for all of you and
continually mention you in our prayers.

We remember before our God and Father your
work produced by *faith*, your *labor* prompted by
love, and your *endurance* inspired by *hope* in our
Lord Jesus Christ.



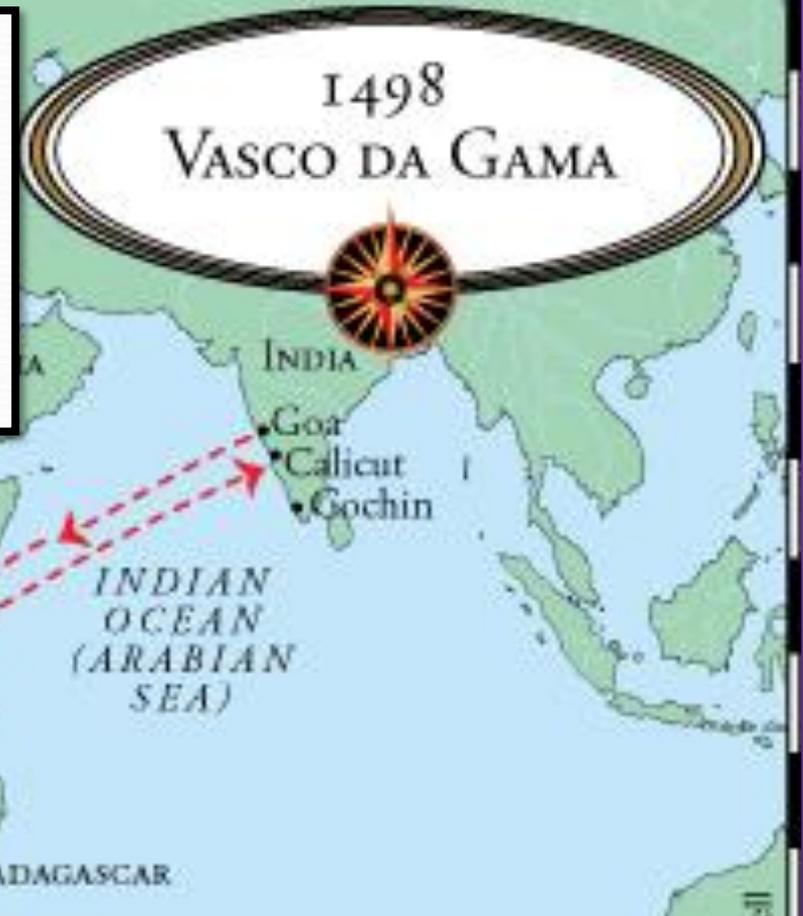
It was originally named the **Cape of Storms** by Portuguese explorer Bartholomew Dias in 1488.



It was later renamed, by King John II of Portugal, the **Cape of Good Hope** because of the great optimism engendered by the opening of a sea route to India and the East.

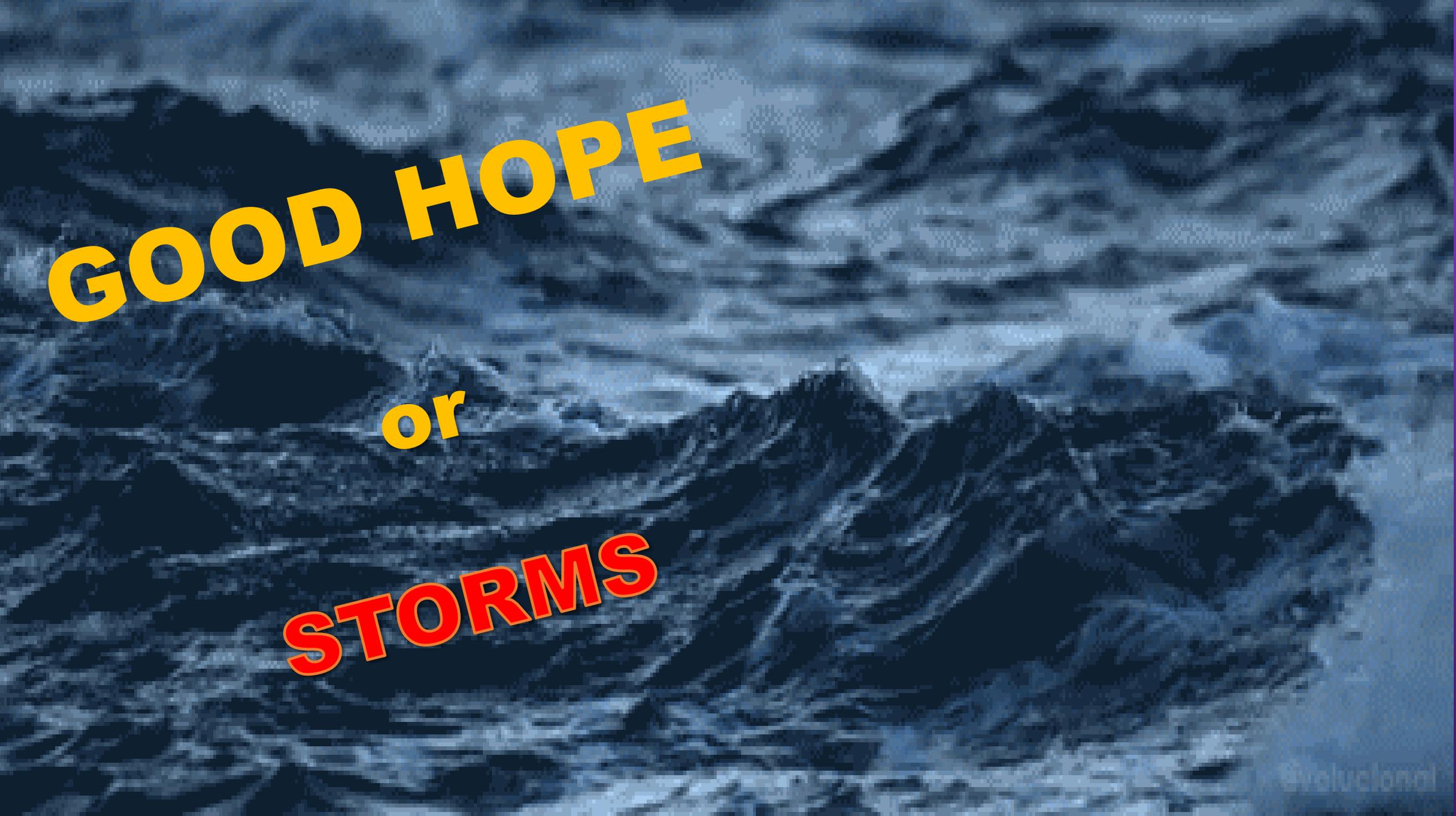
• Vasco da Gama

- 1497 set off with four ships around Cape of Good Hope and visited east Africa
- Met an Arab sailor who helped him navigate to India, and arrived in Calcutta 1498



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
or
CAPE OF STORMS



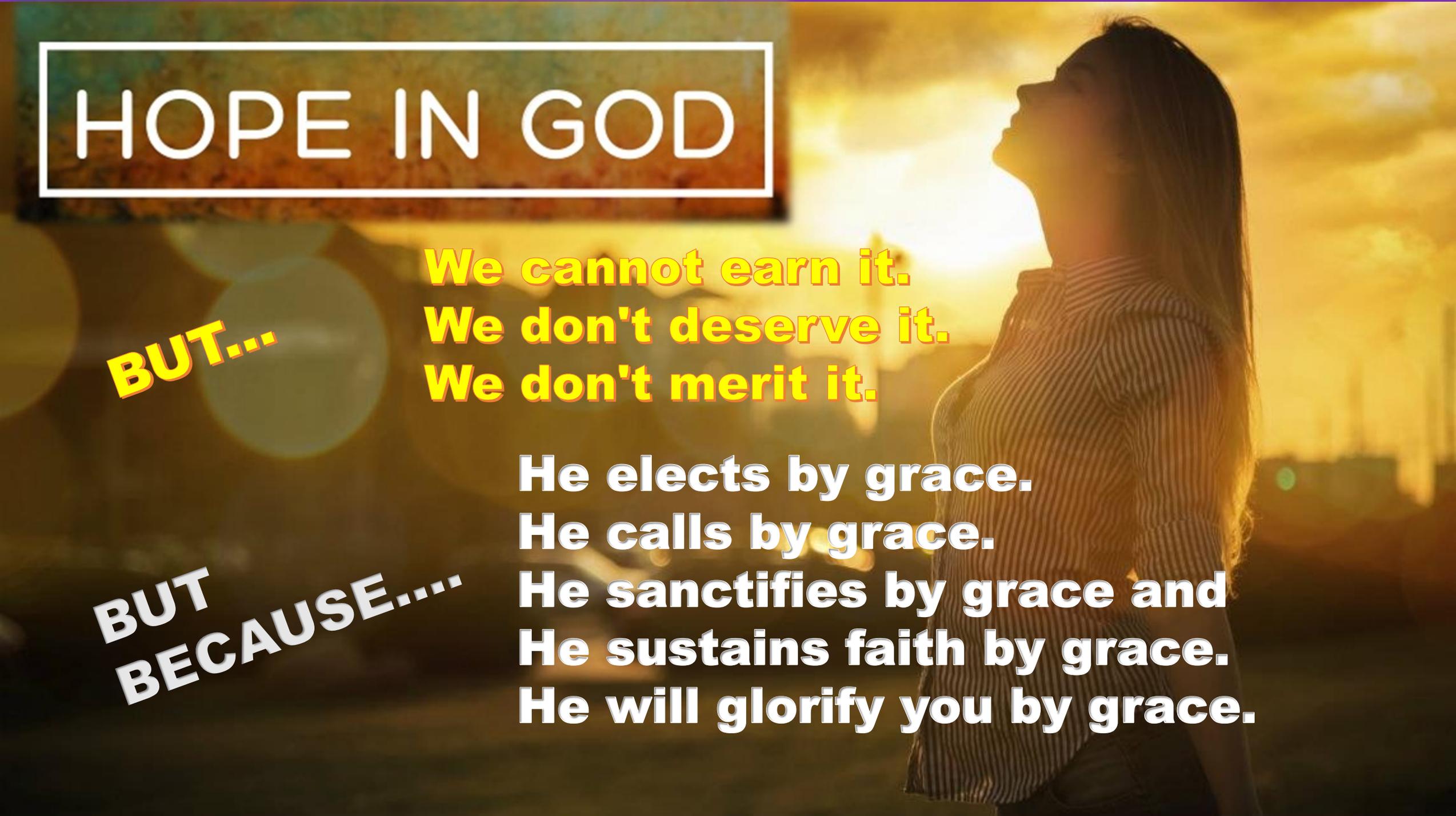


GOOD HOPE

or

STORMS

HOPE IN GOD

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a striped shirt, is shown in profile from the chest up, looking upwards towards a bright sunset. The background is a warm, golden glow from the sun, with some clouds visible. The overall mood is one of hope and contemplation.

BUT...

**We cannot earn it.
We don't deserve it.
We don't merit it.**

**BUT
BECAUSE....**

**He elects by grace.
He calls by grace.
He sanctifies by grace and
He sustains faith by grace.
He will glorify you by grace.**

It is free.

Believe it.

Rest in it.

Delight in it.

And it is ours!

hope

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all—
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

in
Christ alone
my hope
is
found