



# VISIONING SUNDAY



**" NEW YEAR, *NEW HOPE* ? "**

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3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2021

REV DR NG SWEE MING





Year of *F A I T H*<sub>(v)</sub>







**2020**

**OUR VISION  
TRANSFORMING  
LIVES  
EXPANDING  
HIS  
KINGDOM**

**OUR MISSION**  
We are DISCIPLES,  
called to produce other  
FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

We seek to bring  
**GOD'S KINGDOM into  
ALL SPHERES OF LIFE\***

**\*Sphere of Life: the 7 Mountains / Realms  
Of Arts & Entertainment, Business,  
Education, Family, Government,  
Media, Religion**

**2021**

BWJ 2020  
Reading Thru The Bible **Topically**

Aim:

- To **K**NOW Our FAITH...
- To **W**ALK Our FAITH...
- To **S**HARE Our FAITH...
- To **P**ROTECT Our FAITH...





# Ended 2020 : NEED 2 Get the RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

## World's Perspective ...

**C**risis/Confusion/eConomy

**O**verwhelmed/Oppressed

**V**ictim/eViction

**I**nterruptions/Insecurity

**D**espair/Death

## God's Perspective

**C**HRIST

**O**FFERING

**V**ICTORY

**I**MMANUEL

**D**ELIVERER

## Our Perspective

**C**ALLING

**O**VERCOMERS

**V**INDICATED

**I**NTERCEEDING

**D**ESTINY

# “NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE ?”

Definition of HOPE :

- optimistic state of mind....
- a feeling of expectation and desire for something...
- wishing or desiring that something (good) will occur...
- a feeling of trust... (*Archaic*)...



# "NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE ?"

## To Hope is To Trust ...

Bible says **NOT TO TRUST / HOPE** in :

- Riches / Wealth      Job 31:24-28 ; 1 Tim 6:17
- Idols                      Hab 2:18
- Princes                  Psa 146:3-4
- Military might        Psa 20:7
- Man                      Jer 17:5-6



# "NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE ?"

## ***Biblical HOPE ...***

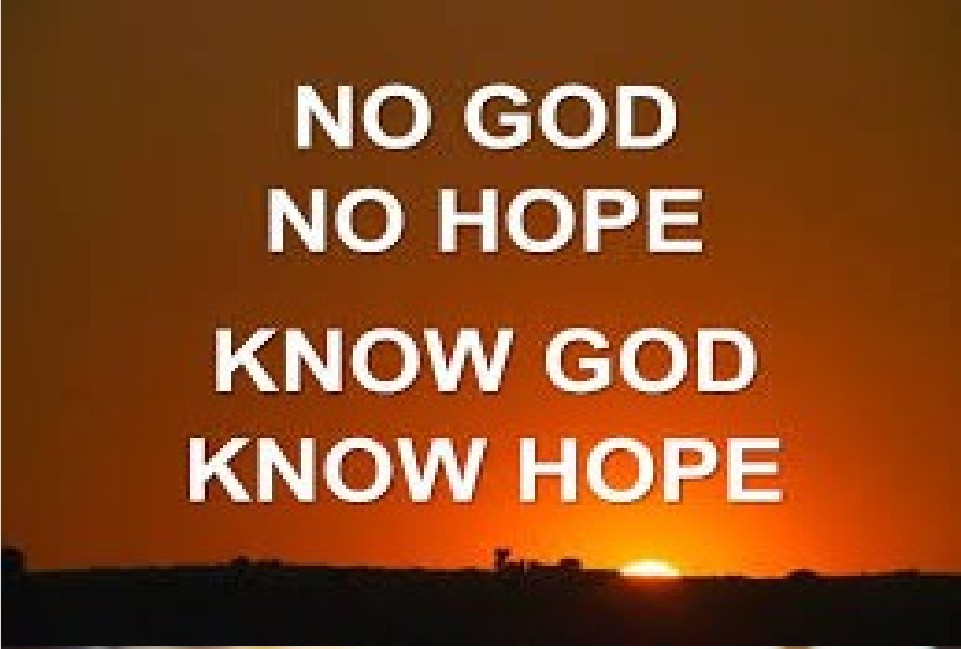
- ✓ "Confident expectation of what God has promised"
- ✓ "Anchored in God's Faithfulness"

For A Christian, ***HOPE*** is based on

- **God's Unchanging Character**
- **God's Unshakeable Promises**

NB: Job 8:13 (Paraphrase) :

*'The godless have no hope'*



**NO GOD  
NO HOPE  
KNOW GOD  
KNOW HOPE**



**Without God,  
Life is a Hopeless End  
With God,  
Life is an Endless Hope**



# IMPORTANCE of HOPE

*“Man can live*

- *about FORTY DAYS without food,*
- *about THREE DAYS without water,*
- *about EIGHT MINUTES without air...*
- ***BUT ONLY FOR ONE SECOND  
WITHOUT HOPE.”***

— Hal Lindsey

**\*Ps Phua also quoted this ...**



# **“NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE ?”**

Defn: Biblical ***hope*** ...

- ✓ ***“Confident expectation of what GOD HAS PROMISED”***
- ✓ ***“Anchored in GOD’S FAITHFULNESS”***

For A Christian, **HOPE** is based on

- **God’s Unchanging Character**
- **God’s Unshakeable Promises**

**Q: What are God’s Promises ?**

**Q: Where can I find God’s Promises ?**



Every promise in the book is mine  
Every chapter, every verse, every line  
All are blessings of His love divine  
Every promise in the book is mine



**"NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE ?"**

# Q: How many Promises are there in the Bible ?

- The Bible has 31,173 verses.
  - About 30,000 ?????
- Dec 1956 : Everette Storm started counting...
  - Total of 8,810 Promises in the Bible...
  - 7,487 Promises from God to Man ...
  - $\cong 20.5$  Promises Every Day in the year...
  - Just  $< 1$  (0.85) Promise every hour, every day

***"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ" (2 Cor 1:20).***

**"NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE ?"**



Promise #1 Col 2:15 *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

The Enemy : **the devil.**

Greek : *diabolos*

Meaning : “to split”

↳ *splitter, divider, wedge driver.....*

Eg Divide God & Man

Division – families, marriages, workplace,  
communities, races, nations .....

↳ **the devil @ WORK.**



Promise #1 Col 2:15 *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

## Knowing your Enemy !

Barna Research :

**AMONG CHRISTIANS ...**

40% - **STRONGLY AGREE** that Satan 'is not a living being but is a symbol of evil.'

19% - **'AGREE SOMEWHAT'** with that perspective.

6% - **NOT SURE**

35% - **BELIEVE SATAN is REAL. . . .**



Promise #1 Col 2:15 *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

## THE ARMOR OF GOD



***“Though we walk in the flesh,  
we do not war according to  
the flesh. For the weapons of  
our warfare are not carnal but  
mighty in God for pulling  
down strongholds”***

***(2 Cor. 10:3–4 NKJV).***

**Eph 6:13-18**



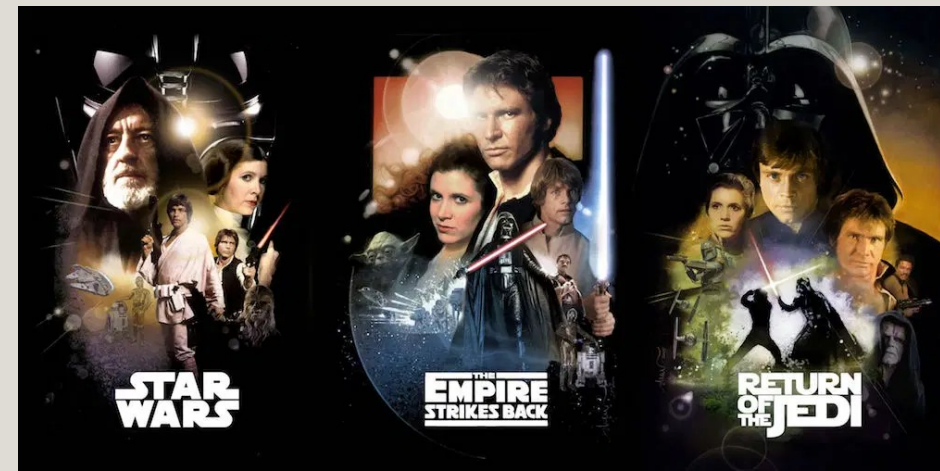
Promise #1 Col 2:15 *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

*Illustration:*

Seeing a show .....

- A show that you waited to see .....
- last of a trilogy .....
- You buy the ticket to see the show...
- On the way to the cinema, your friend calls you ....
- In your conversation tells you how the show ended ....
- **HOW WILL YOU FEEL ???**

BUT **THINK AGAIN** !



Promise #1 Col 2:15 *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*



**SPOILER ALERT**  
**JESUS**  
**WINS**



# *Promise #2*





*Promise #2 Heb 7:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to **INTERCEDE FOR THEM.***

Matt. 14:22–24

- 22** *Immediately **Jesus made the disciples get into the boat** and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd.*
- 23** *After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to **PRAY**. When evening came, he was there alone,*
- 24** *but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.*



*Promise #2 Heb 7:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.*

Many of us find ourselves in **STORMS of LIFE ...**

- Some of our own making ....
- Some that God allowed into our lives ...
- Some that God sent our way ....

Storms will come ....

- 2020 – there have been many storms ...
- 2021 – there will be many, many more ...

❖ Good News ...

Q: Where is Jesus ?

Q: What is Jesus doing ?

➡ Jesus is **INTERCEDING** for you, for me ...

*Promise #2 Heb 7:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.*

Jesus came to His Disciples in the MIDST of their Storm  
SO...

Jesus will also come to us in the MIDST of our Storms

➤ If we will only see Him....

➤ If we will only allow Him....

➤ If we will keep our eyes out for Him ...

➤ If we will keep our eyes only on Him ...

Jesus not only INTERCEEDS

Jesus can also COME into our STORMS and ....



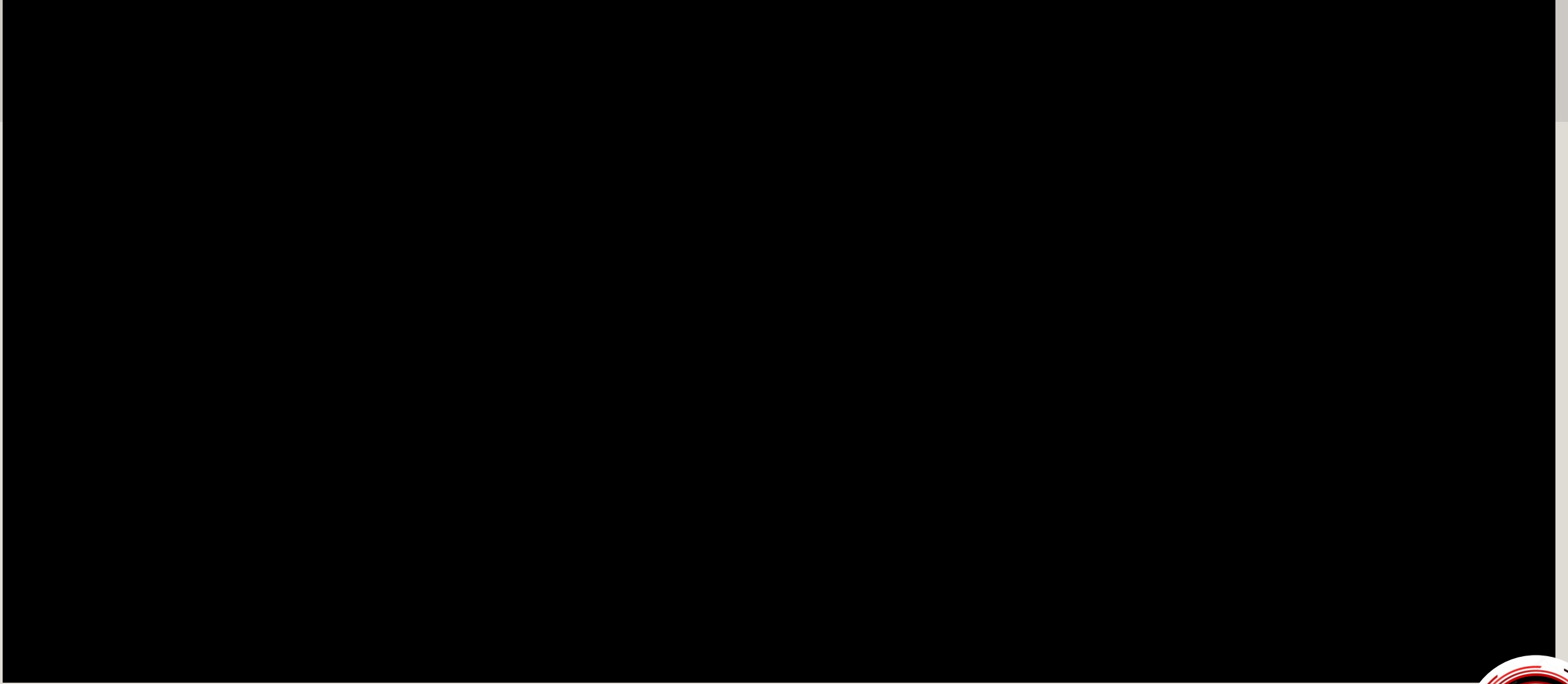


# *Promise #2*

**Chris  
Tomlin**



# ***Promise #3***



**USA National Debt Clock**



## ***Promise #3***

**Msia National Debt Clock**



## ***Promise #3***

Interest Payments Per Year

**RM.26,450,924,450**

Interest Payments Per Second

**RM.839**

National Debt Per Citizen

**RM.23,904**

Debt as % of GDP

**55.60%**

GDP Of Malaysia

**RM.1,380,179,482,171**

Malaysia Population

**32,100,000**

In this guide to **Malaysia's National Debt**, we discuss the amount of the debt, who manages it, the country's credit limit, and who buys its debt.

# **Msia National Debt**

*Promise #3 **Rom 8:1** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,*

Q; What if God had a Personal Debt Clock for each one of us ?  
What / How will it look like ?

- ✓ ☐ Telling a lie !
- ✓ ☐ Unclean thoughts !
- ✓ ☐ Gossipy words !
- ✓ ☐ Murderous feeling !
- ✓ ☐ Insincere prayer !
- ✓ ☐ Missed BWJ devotion !



*Promise #3 Rom 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,*

According to the OT LAW

*Isa 59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.*

➤ If God judge us by the Law ...

UNLESS you ....

↳ 1 Jn 1:9 Repent

↳ Forgiven

↳ Cleanse





*Promise #3 Rom 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,  
Ps 103:12 "...as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions  
from us."*

*Isa 1:18 "Though your sins are like scarlet, they  
shall be as white as snow; though they are  
red as crimson, they shall be like wool."*

*1 John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in  
the light, we have fellowship with one another,  
and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us  
from all sin."*



*Promise #3 Rom 8:1 Therefore, there is now  
**NO CONDEMNATION** for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

Not Limited condemnation ....

Not Appropriate condemnation ...

Not Calculated condemnation ....

**BUT**



## *Promise #4*

*Ps 30:5b "...weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."*

*2 Cor 4:17 "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."*

*Heb 6:19 "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."*

‘Hope’ : 166 times in the Bible

31 times in the Psalms

18 times in Job

17 times in Romans





**Jonathan, Laura,  
Andrew & Leighton**



**May 23, 2015**



***Promise #4 Ps 30:5b "...weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."***

***Heb 6:19 We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.***

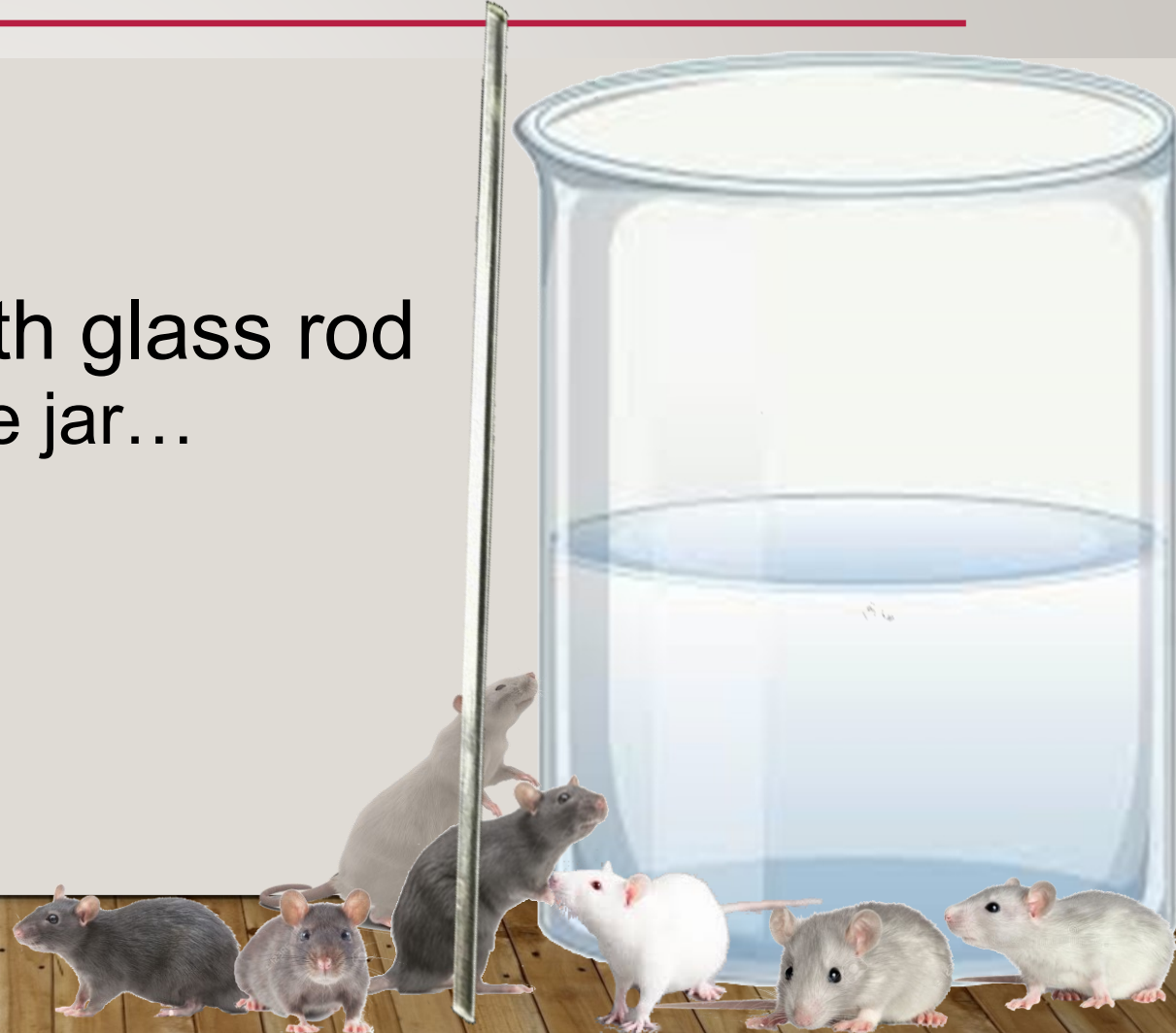


- ***I know that God is not going to give us anything we can't handle.***
- ***I know that we are here for a little while . . .***
- ***I know that this entire tragedy is horrible.***
- ***I know . . . I will [be] reunited with them in heaven.***



# HOPE EXPERIMENT

- Rats in a jar of water ....
- 1<sup>st</sup> gp:  
15 mins avg survival
- 2<sup>nd</sup> gp:  
saved at the last minute with glass rod  
24hrs later placed back into the jar...  
Lasted for 3 days, 72hrs avg –  
about 228x longer





# Faith & Hope !

- **Faith for the present ...**
- **Hope for the future...**

Illustrating Faith & Hope :

Young son standing high on the rock..

Father yells - 'Jump'....

FAITH is taking 'the leap of faith'...

- a son's Faith in his father....

HOPE – the 'confident expectation'  
that his father will catch him ....



**“NEW YEAR, NEW HOPE?”**

***hope : “the confident expectation of God’s promises anchored in God’s faithfulness”***

**Quote:**

**You have a Problem,**

**God has a Promise...**

**We are building our lives**

**on the Promises of God...**



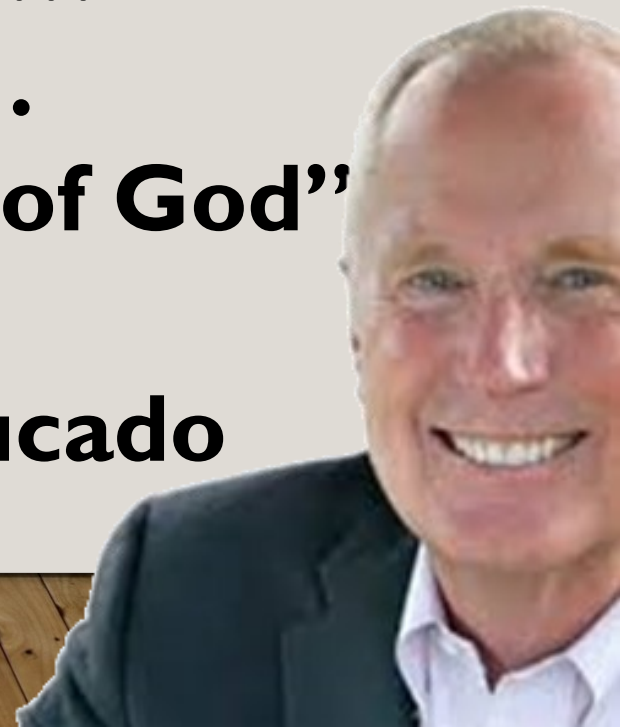
**Max Lucado**

**7,487 Promises from God to Man ...  
≅ 20.5 Promises Every Day ...  
Just < 1 (0.85) Promise every hour ...**

**Quote:**

**“You have a Problem, God has a Promise...  
We are building our lives on the Promises of God,  
Because His Word are Unbreakable,  
Our Hope is Unshakeable.  
We do not stand on the Problems of Life ...  
or the Pain in Life ...  
We stand on the PRECIOUS PROMISES of God”**

**Max Lucado**





Rom 15:4 *For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that **THROUGH ENDURANCE** and the **ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES** we might have **HOPE**.*

*"... I have put my **HOPE** in your **WORD**."*

Ps 119:43, 49, 74, 81, 114, 147; 130:5

"New Year,

**SAME Hope** "

Biblical *hope* :

- “Confident expectation of GOD’s PROMISES anchored in GOD’s FAITHFULNESS”

*“I have put  
my **HOPE**  
in your  
**WORD**”*



“NEW YEAR, **SAME HOPE**”





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**" NEW YEAR, SAME HOPE "**

**2021**

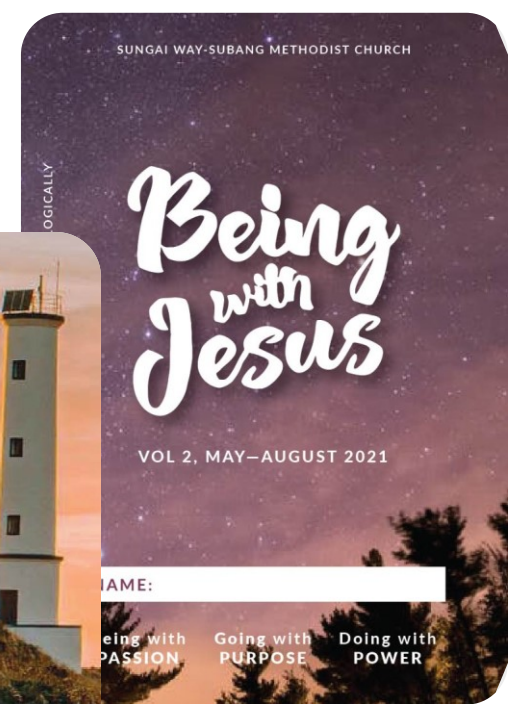
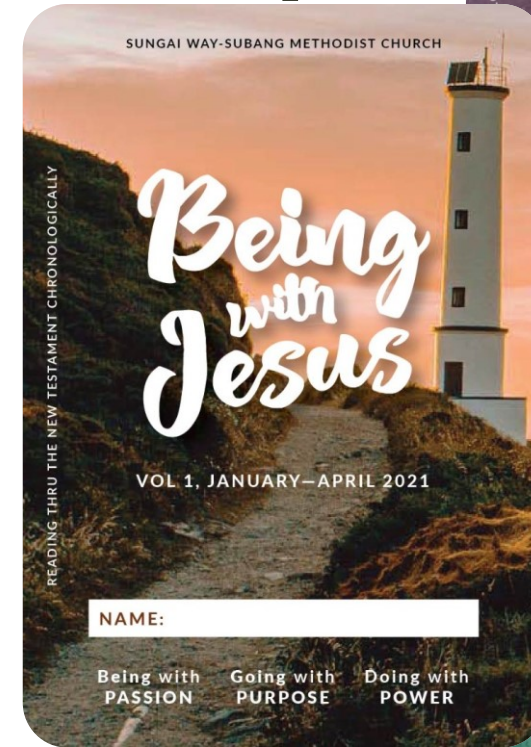


# BWJ 2021: Reading Thru The New Testament Chronologically

Aim:

- To **K** NOW our HOPE & FAITH...
- To **W**ALK our HOPE & FAITH...
- To **S**HARE our HOPE & FAITH...
- To **P**ROTECT our HOPE & FAITH...

2020 2021





YEAR OF  
TRANSITION