

January 23 Adult Spiritual Growth Class Synopsis

Unshakable Hope: Chapter 14: Unbreakable Promises, Unshakable Hope

What kind of hope do we have apart from Christ?

Have you ever felt hope in the midst of tragedy? What did it feel like? Why did you have hope even though the situation appeared hopeless?

In all of the God's promises studied previously, how does Jesus make each promise possible or how does He fulfill each promise?

Rabbi Abraham Heschel was a Jewish theologian and philosopher, who actively participated in the civil rights movement and noted that we all are responsible for the plight and liberation of all suffering fellow humans around the world. When asked what the most important word in the Bible was, he said that it's the word "remember." He explained that we have faith in knowing what God is going to do next because we remember what God has already done.

As Christians, our faith and hope are founded in the absolute reliability of God's promises, spoken in Hebrews 6:18. "Two unchangeable things" prove that God's oaths are absolutely reliable. One of these is the very nature of God: He is all-powerful (Psalm 68:34, Job 42:2); He cannot change (Malachai 3:6); and He cannot lie (Numbers 23:19). Therefore, whatever He promises is absolutely certain. The second is the evidence of His truth as given in His Word; this means real-world history as described by the Bible. That which God promised to do, history proves He actually has done.

We are called *to hold unswervingly to the hope we profess for God who promised is faithful (Hebrews 10:23)*. We remember God's faithfulness in what He has done and He continues to do. We remember and claim God's promises in our study:

- God has given you His very great and precious promises. (James 1:17, Romans 4:20-21, Hebrews 10:23)
- You are stamped with God's image. (2 Corinthians 3:18).
- The devil's days are numbered. (Romans 16:20)
- You are an heir of God. (Romans 8:18-19)
- Your prayers have power. (Philippians 4:6-7)
- There is grace for the humble. (1 Peter 5:5)
- God gets you. (Hebrews 4:14)
- Christ is praying for you. (Romans 8:34)
- There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1)
- This tomb is temporary. (1 Corinthians 15:54)
- Joy is coming soon. (Psalm 30:5)
- You will have power through the Holy Spirit. (Acts 1:8)
- Justice will prevail. (Acts 17:31)

We know that *faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1)*
We rest in knowing that Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2) Jesus, our only hope, is the sure and steadfast anchor of the soul for He leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary (Hebrews 6:19). He is our anchor to Heaven itself!

Edward Mote writes in his hymn: "When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand."

A song to reflect and pray on:

[The Solid Rock - from The Hymns Project \(Lyric Video\) - YouTube](#)

Looking ahead – Sunday January 30

Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World

Chapter 1 – Less Fret, More Faith

Philippians 4:4-8