

Reasons for Hope in 2025

December 1, 2024

It's a critical question, particularly as we start a New Year. We live in a broken world, a truth that 2024 reminded us often. Just about everyone had their lives shook up in some way.

As you face the challenges and joys of 2025, let me point you to five unshakeable truths that anchor our hope as Christians. This year, no matter what you are facing, remind yourself of the truths from 1 Peter 1.

GOD CHOSE US BEFORE WE CHOSE HIM.

Peter tells us, **You were chosen according to the purpose of God the Father and were made a holy people by his Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be purified by his blood.** 1 Peter 1:2

We all know what it's like to feel chosen—whether you're chosen for team, a job, or a spouse. But the highest honor you will ever receive is this: God has chosen you to spend eternity with him. That's a big deal.

GOD ALWAYS TREATS US WITH MERCY.

Peter goes on to write: **All honor to God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; for it is his boundless mercy that has given us the privilege to being born again so that we are now members of God's own family.** 1 Peter 1:3

make him love you any less. His love is based on his mercy for you. The Bible says this in Titus 3:5 **He saved us not because of the righteous things we have done, but because of his mercy.**

GOD HAS SECURED OUR FUTURE

If you're a Christian, you don't need to worry about your eternal destiny. It's secure. No matter what else changes in 2025, your eternity won't shift an inch. Peter writes, **Now we live in the hope of eternal life because Christ rose again from the dead. And God has reserved for his children the priceless gift of eternal life; it is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.** 1 Peter 1:3

GOD'S POWER WILL PROTECT US.

No matter what the year ahead has in store, you can always count on God to help. Peter describes it like this: **Through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.** 1 Peter 1:4

GOD IS PREPARING US FOR ETERNITY

When you really understand this truth, it'll change everything about how you deal with difficulties. God is using everything in your life—the good, the bad, and the ugly—to prepare you for eternity.

Peter describes this so powerfully in 1 Peter 1:6-7, **So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold.**

Hebrews 6:13-19 says: **Now there are two things that are unchangeable: God cannot lie when He makes a promise, and he cannot lie when he makes an oath.**

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there he may be also. John 14:3