



PRISONERS OF HOPE

F U L L N E S S

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"Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now, I announce that I will restore twice as much to you." Zechariah 9:12

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

I am calling us today, on behalf of Christ, to become prisoners of hope!

Prisoner – one who is held captive by a higher power.

Prisoner of hope – one who is held captive by the greater power of Hope itself.

We are living in a day when everything that can be shaken is being shaken. (*Hebrews 12:26-27*).

Hopelessness is created when things we had hoped in are removed from us. Brothers and sisters, this is our season of purifying our hope, of letting go of everything unworthy of our hope in order to take firm hold of what cannot be shaken.

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our 'God is a consuming fire.'" Hebrews 12:28-29

"God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." Hebrews 6:18-19

Zechariah (along with Haggai and Malachi) prophesied during the dark days of Israel's history immediately following the exile. A remnant of God's people had returned to Jerusalem, but the land is still in rubble. These were dark, hopeless days.

- » Currently, they were *"prisoners from the waterless pit"* Zech. 9:11
- » God now calls them by a new name – *"prisoners of hope"* Zech 9:12

"Prisoner of hope" includes three essential elements

1. Current identity
2. View of reality – current events and personal circumstances
3. Future destiny

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- » *HOPE* is God's name.
- » The expressed will of God is that we would *OVERFLOW* with hope.
- » The singular response that Christ is calling for is *TRUST*.

I AM A PRISONER OF HOPE

"Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now, I announce that I will restore twice as much to you." Zechariah 9:12

I am a prisoner of hope. I am in Christ and, therefore, my current identity, my view of reality and my future destiny are all in Christ.

My identity is in Christ. I am eternally linked to Christ and I renounce the hopelessness of living my life apart from Him. From this day forward, I want to only and always be known as Christ's follower, and will eagerly expect to be treated or mistreated the same way Christ is treated.

I am in Christ and the only accurate view of reality is to gain Christ's perspective. Because He is the God of Hope, I will always be hopeful as I consider both current events and personal circumstances.

My future destiny is in Christ. He is my inheritance and my future is secure in Him.

I will always be a prisoner of hope, and will always overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Name _____ Date _____

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