

# Keepers of the Flame (Hope)

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Why do we go to church? Why do we attend this church? What do they believe and teach? Do you know? If we don't know what this church believes or why they believe it then how can we pass it on?

What is it that we have been entrusted is the message of the gospel.

John 3:16-21

God in His wisdom has placed this treasure in earthen vessels- in the born again. His blood brought church the redeemed.

2 Corinthians 4:7-11 (NASB)

*<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; <sup>8</sup> we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. <sup>11</sup> For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.*

2 Timothy 1:8-14 (NASB)

*<sup>8</sup> Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, <sup>9</sup> who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, <sup>10</sup> but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, <sup>11</sup> for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher. <sup>12</sup> For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day. <sup>13</sup> Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. <sup>13</sup> Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the [treasure which has been entrusted to.*

Because we are the redeemed of God and His Spirit lives in us, therefore throughout the generations we have an eternal Hope to pass on.

Hope- expectation

Romans 12:12 -He is the God of Hope

Colossians 1:23-Hope of the gospel

Colossians 1:27-Hope of Glory

1Thesalonians 5:8- Hope of salvation

Titus 3:7- Hope of eternal life

1 Peter 1:3-4 a living hope

1 Peter 3:15 (NASB)

*<sup>15</sup> but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you.*