

WHEN GOD SWEARS

Hebrews 6:13-20

I. THE NEED FOR HOPE

A. Our Emotional Composition

B. God's Fatherly Care—His concern for our emotional well-being

1. Motivation

2. Consolation—comfort and encouragement

C. Hope Defined

1. A Wish—a want, a desire that might not happen

2. A Belief—something in the future in which we trust

II. THE QUALITY OF GOD'S PROMISE

A. THE VALUE OF A PROMISE—as credible as person who gives it

B. GOD'S CREDIT SCORE

1. God's Ability—able to perform what He has committed to do

a. **Power**—strength and authority: Almighty Sovereign

b. **Wealth**—assets and resources: everything that exists

c. **Wisdom**—all-knowing, flawless understanding, perfect judgment

d. **Life Expectancy**—eternal

2. God's Character (Rev19:11)

a. **Faithful (Dt 7:7-9; Ps 111:7)**—reliable, can be counted on

b. **True (Num 23:19; Jn 14:6 & 16:13; 17:7; Eph 4:25)**—can not lie

c. **Unchanging (Num 23:19; Mal 3:6)**—consistent, stable, incorruptible

C. TWO UNCHANGEABLE THINGS (18)

1. God's WORD (Isa 40:8 & 55:11; Mat 5:18)—will, plan, decision, purpose, eternal counsels

2. God's OATH—extra solemn, serious, personal, official

III. THE BEAUTY OF OUR HOPE (18-20)—pictures of Jesus

A. A REFUGE (Num 35; Dt 33:27; Joel 2:32/Act 2:21/Rom 10:13; Jn 6:37)

B. AN ANCHOR—for a ship in the storm

C. OUR FORERUNNER (Jn 14:2-3; Mt 15:38;)—trail-blazer, intercessor, agent, priest—in the heavenly Holy of Holies, before the throne of God.

1. Has gone ahead

2. Has made a way for us

3. Is representing us

4. Is preparing a place for us