How do I overcome my feelings of hopelessness?

David Banning · Genesis 50:22–26 · Series: **Meeting with David Banning**

INTRODUCTION

- First of all, I am struck by the fact that Joseph knew about this promise that he alludes to here in these closing verses of Genesis.
- Not only does he know about the promise, but Joseph believes this promise.
- Joseph was willing to act on this promise God had made.

1 Our Hope Is an Anchor of the Soul

John 14:1–3; Hebrews 6:17–19; Philippians 3:12–14

- Our hope for the future rests upon promises God has made to us and our confidence that he will be faithful to those promises.
- That is our hope, ladies and gentlemen. That one day, when all of this is over, we're going to go home to be with God in heaven.
- This hope we have, as an anchor of the soul, a hope which is both sure and steadfast, and one which enters within the veil.
- It is our hope that serves as the anchor that keeps us steady when the storms of life afflict us.
- If our hope is to be that anchor that keeps us stable, then ladies and gentlemen, it has to be a hope that is real.

2 We Need to Know About Our Promise

Colossians 3:1–2; Matthew 6:19–21; Philippians 3:20

- Like Joseph, we need to know about our promise.
- Heaven needs to be real to God's people.
- God has already given us the scrapbook. You're holding it tonight.
- At regular intervals, we need to read the passages that make our hope real.
- Set your mind on the things above. Not on the things that are on the earth.
- We are strangers living in a foreign land with residency elsewhere.

3 We've Got to Believe That Promise

John 14:1

- Just like Joseph, we've got to believe that promise.
- It's not enough to want this promise of heaven to be true. Like Joseph, we have to be absolutely convinced of it.
- Do not let your heart be troubled. Believe in God. Believe also in me.

- Heaven is not wishful thinking.
- Jesus said, believe in God. That's really what it's about. And when we believe Him, we can believe the promise.

4 We Need to Start Acting Like It

- If we know the promise and we believe the promise, and ladies and gentlemen, we need to start acting like it.
- We can't say that we believe and then go day to day living our lives like we're doubters.
- True believers are not casual or careless about their morality because they really believe that how you behave makes an eternal difference.
- True believers are more concerned with their children learning the Bible than what grade they got in advanced algebra.
- When we believe the promise and we start living that way every day, it helps keep us focused in that direction.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **As you think about what choice you will make about your faith, will you please remember that each of us, like Joseph, will leave behind a spiritual legacy?**

MY NOTES