

**Series: HOPE BEYOND**  
**Title: Hope Beyond Futility**  
**Speaker: Bob Marvel**  
**Date: June 1-2, 2019**

**“Is everything sad going to come untrue?” (Samwise Gamgee)**

1. What are some of your favorite stories, books, or movies about hope?
2. This week’s key passage is 1 Peter 1:3-4, “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you.”
3. How can we be confident that our hope for the life to come isn’t a fairy tale?
4. Tolkien says all the best stories all have one thing in common, a eucastrophe. What is that? Why is that?
5. How can we use the idea of misguided hope and a eucastrophe in sharing our faith?
6. How does hope anchor our soul? Hebrews 6:19
7. Bob mentioned that over the years the pendulum has swung from anticipating heaven and the life to come, to focusing on the here and now. How do we keep our eyes on both or should we? Romans 12:12 and 1 Corinthians 15:19
8. In what ways do Christ-followers already experience the resurrection here and now? Colossians 1:27, Romans 8:2 & 11.
9. Looking at Matthew 5:3-10, Mark 10:29-31, Luke 12:32-43, John 10:10, and Revelation 22:12, what does Jesus tell us to anticipate in the life to come? Why does God want us to have hyperopia?
10. Be as down to earth as you can in discussing this next question. How do we actually live out 2 Corinthians 4:18: to fix our eyes on something we can’t see?
11. Won’t the next life be boring if the only thing we do is worship all the time?
12. Name some songs that make you feel hopeful. Can you sing a line?

13.If the hope and the inheritance that Peter writes about in 1:3-4, that Paul does in Romans 8:18 and Samwise Gamgee expresses in the quote above were to be ours, how we live differently?

Because He Lives

[Gaither Vocal Band](#)

God sent his son, they called him Jesus  
He came to love, heal and forgive  
He lived and died to buy my pardon  
An empty grave is there to prove my savior lives

Because he lives

I can face tomorrow

Because he lives

All fear is gone

Because I know he holds the future

And life is worth the living

Just because he lives

How sweet to hold a newborn baby

And feel the pride and joy he gives

But greater still the calm assurance

This child can face uncertain day because he lives

Because he lives

I can face tomorrow

Because he lives

All fear is gone

Because I know he holds the future

And life is worth the living

Just because he lives

And then one day I'll cross the river

I'll fight life's final war with pain

And then, as death gives way to victory

I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns

Because he lives

I can face tomorrow

Because he lives

All fear is gone

Because I know he holds the future

And life is worth the living

Just because he lives