**Christians viewing this hope with boldness and pride, knowing that this hope is an anchor of the soul, are not to be afraid, troubled, or intimidated by those who might speak evil of them because of this hope. Rather, Christians are to view this hope and respond to others concerning this hope in such a manner that even their accusers might, themselves, end up being ashamed.**

**Things Hoped For  
By Arlen Chitwood of** [**Lamp Broadcast**](http://lampbroadcast.org/)

[Hebrews 11:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+11.1&t=NKJV) introduces what is often looked upon as “the great chapter on faith” in the Word of God, can be viewed only one way contextually: “*Now faith* [to the saving of the *soul*] *is*…” And the remainder of the verse doesn’t provide a definition of *faith* (which is something seen in the meaning of the word itself; *i.e*., “*faith*” is *believing God*). Rather, the remainder of the verse reveals that which emanates *out of the faith in view*, that which emanates out of *believing God* to the *saving of the soul*.

1) The Substance of Things Hoped for

The word “substance” is a translation of the Greek word, *hupostasis*. This is a compound word, comprised of *hupo* and *stasis*. *Hupo* means “under,” and *stasis* means “to stand.” And the words used together, forming a compound word, would carry the meaning, “to stand under.” The thought in view is that of *a foundation underlying a superstructure*.

That is, *faith to the saving of the soul* is the *foundation* upon which the “*things hoped for* [the superstructure]” *rests*. The immediate contextual reference would be back to the *last mention of hope* in the book ([Hebrews 10:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+10.23&t=NKJV)), where an *exhortation* is given:

*Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.*

The *hope* set before Christians and that which lies within the framework of this hope is the revealed purpose for a further exhortation in verses twenty-four and twenty-five:

*And let us consider one another in order to stir up* [‘incite’] *love and good works*,

*not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.* ([Hebrews 10:24-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+10.24-25&t=NKJV))

Christians are exhorted to assemble together, *not* for the sake of mutual encouragement and incitement in a general sense *but for* the sake of mutual encouragement and incitement in a *particular, specified realm*. The hope set before Christians is in view, and this hope must be kept in view if Christians would assemble within the framework of that seen in [Hebrews 10:23-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+10.23-25&t=NKJV).

This hope was seen earlier in the book as “*an anchor of the soul*” ([Hebrews 6:18-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+6.18-19&t=NKJV)). An anchor is something that holds that to which it is attached firmly in place. And, with the *soul* being anchored in this manner, Christians are, in turn, to “*hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end*” ([Hebrews 3:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+3.6&t=NKJV)).

The words “confidence” and “rejoicing” are translations of Greek words (*parresia* and *kauchema*) which have to do with “boldness” and “pride” respectively. Christians possess something of incalculable value, something that they can both be bold about and take pride in (resulting in “rejoicing,” as in the KJV translation).

Christians possess a *hope*, which is an anchor of the *soul*. And they are to exhibit boldness and pride in that which is theirs as they stand ready to respond to any individual who might ask them about this hope:

*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.* ([1 Peter 3:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+3.15&t=NKJV)).

It is inevitable that a response of this nature will result in askance looks, disdain, scorn, etc. at the hands of other Christians. That was anticipated by Peter as he penned the words in this verse. He himself knew full-well that the servant would receive no better treatment than that accorded the One Whom he served (*cf*. [Acts 4:1-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+4.1-21&t=NKJV); [5:28-40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+5.28-40&t=NKJV); [1 Peter 1:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.7&t=NKJV), [11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.11&t=NKJV); [4:12-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+4.12-19&t=NKJV); *cf.* [John 21:18-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+21.18-19&t=NKJV)).

And with this in view, immediately before and after Peter penned the words in [Hebrews 10:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+10.15&t=NKJV), he wrote,

*But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. And do not be afraid of their threats* [don’t be intimidated by them], *nor be troubled*.

*Having a good conscience* [spiritual awareness]; *that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct* [manner of living] *in Christ may be ashamed* ([Hebrews 10:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+10.14&t=NKJV), [16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+10.16&t=NKJV)).

Christians viewing this hope with boldness and pride, knowing that this hope is an anchor of the soul, are not to be afraid, troubled, or intimidated by those who might speak evil of them because of this hope. Rather, Christians are to view this hope and respond to others concerning this hope in such a manner that even their accusers might, themselves, end up being ashamed.

This is the *hope* spoken of by Paul in his letter to Titus in connection with an *inheritance* in the coming age (*cf.* [Titus 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Titus+1.2&t=NKJV); [3:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Titus+3.7&t=NKJV)). And it is called “*that blessed hope*,” having to do with “*the glorious appearing* [*lit*., ‘the appearing of the *glory’*] *of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ*” ([Titus 2:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Titus+2.13&t=NKJV)). And Paul in this epistle, relative to this *hope*, exhorts Christians to “*live soberly* [of sound mind, keeping one’s head], *righteously, and godly, in this present world* [‘age’]” ([Titus 2:12-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Titus+2.12-13&t=NKJV)).

And this hope is presented in a similar manner other places in both the Pauline and General epistles (*e.g*., [Ephesians 1:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+1.18&t=NKJV); [Colossians 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Colossians+1.5&t=NKJV), [23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Colossians+1.23&t=NKJV), [27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Colossians+1.27&t=NKJV); [1 Thessalonians 5:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Thessalonians+5.8&t=NKJV); [1 Peter 1:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.3&t=NKJV); [1 John 3:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1John+3.3&t=NKJV)). This is a “hope” that rests *on the foundation* “*of faith to the saving of the soul*.” And it is only one of two things singled out and mentioned in connection with *faith* in [Hebrews 11:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+11.1&t=NKJV).

2) The Evidence of Things Not Seen

“*The evidence of things not seen*” is that which is also singled out and mentioned in connection with “*faith to the saving of the soul*.”

The word “evidence,” a translation of the Greek word *elegchos*, could be better translated in the sense of “bringing to light.” That is, “*faith to the saving of the soul*” is not only the *foundation* on which our hope rests but it is *also* that which *brings to light the things not seen*, connected with this *hope*.

The things not seen, further dealt with in [Hebrews 11:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+11.3&t=NKJV), have to do with that which *cannot be seen in the world about us*. But, through “*faith to the saving of the soul*,” these things *can be seen* in that which God has *revealed in His Word* (*cf*. [1 Corinthians 2:9-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+2.9-10&t=NKJV)).

“*Faith to the saving of the soul*” is the *one thing* that can bring to light, *from* the Word, that which a person cannot see in the *present* world system under Satan. There is the *present* kingdom under Satan, and there is the *coming* kingdom under Christ. The things of the *present* kingdom can be seen through natural perception, by the *natural man*; but the things of the *coming* kingdom can be seen *only* through spiritual perception, by the *spiritual man*.

These things can be seen *only by faith*, only by *believing that which God has revealed in His Word*. And it is *only* through this means that all the various things having to do with the *saving of the soul*, the *hope set before us*, are *brought to light*. They are brought to light *through the Word being opened to the Christians’ understanding by the One presently in the world searching for a bride for God’s Son* (*cf*. [Genesis 24:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+24.1ff&t=NKJV); [John 16:12-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+16.12-15&t=NKJV)). And all these *things from the Word* are being *laid out before the prospective bride* — described as “*jewelry of silver, and jewelry of gold*” — as *the Spirit completes His work during the present dispensation* ([Genesis 24:53ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+24.53ff&t=NKJV)).

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[Bible One -Arlen Chitwood's Had Ye Believed Moses, Ch. 8, Things Hoped For](http://bibleone.net/HYBM_08.htm)