

## CELEBRATING HOPE!

### GOD'S PROMISE OF HOPE

<sup>6</sup> For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen! **Isaiah 9:6-7 NLT**

### GOD'S PROVISION OF HOPE

#### The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

<sup>18</sup> This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. <sup>20</sup> As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: <sup>23</sup> "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus. **Matthew 1:18-25 NLT**

**1 person fulfilling 8 prophecies: 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000**

**1 person fulfilling 48 prophecies: 1 chance in 10 to the 157<sup>th</sup> power**

**1 person fulfilling 300+ prophecies: Only Jesus!**

Until we are hopeless, we will not turn to the **HOPE OF THE WORLD**.

### GOD'S TESTIMONY OF HOPE

#### Faith in the Son of God

<sup>1</sup> Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. <sup>2</sup> We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup> Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup> For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. <sup>5</sup> And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God. <sup>6</sup> And Jesus Christ was revealed as God's Son by his baptism in water and by shedding his blood on the cross - not by water only, but by water and blood. And the Spirit, who is truth, confirms it with his testimony. <sup>7</sup> So we have these three witnesses - <sup>8</sup> the Spirit, the water, and the blood - and all three agree. <sup>9</sup> Since we believe human testimony, surely we can believe the greater testimony that comes from God. And God has testified about his Son. <sup>10</sup> All who believe in the Son of God know in their hearts that this testimony is true. Those who don't believe this are actually calling God a liar because they don't believe what God has testified about his Son. <sup>11</sup> And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

<sup>12</sup> Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life. <sup>13</sup> I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. **1 John 5:1-13 NLT**

- If we have never felt hopeless, we have never turned to Christ for salvation.
- There is no Plan B.

<sup>16</sup> "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup> There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son." **John 3:16-18 NLT**

#### Next Steps for me today...

- Lean into the promises of God and His faithfulness.
- Celebrate the birth of our hope.
- Realize our need for a Savior.