

32 Scriptures that Dare

The Bible dares us to hope that in the *height, width, depth and length of God's love for us*—a love only grasped through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit—there is a *hope for all* far more vast than we could ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:14-21).

The following passages are not random proof-texts gathered into one convenient lump. They represent a sustained biblical testimony of God's revealed purposes in Christ—from Alpha to Omega. Many of them speak of a salvation given, not merely offered, to **all**, not merely a chosen few. They are the Good Shepherd's promise to seek for every last lost sheep *until he finds them*.

Those who humbly hope, pray and preach for the salvation of all find their hope rooted firmly in the Bible. What saith the Scriptures? The following are key New Testament texts that dare us to such hope.

And then *all flesh* shall see the salvation of God (Luke 3:6).

This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that through him *all* might believe.... The

true light that gives light to *everyone* was coming into the world (John 1:7, 9).

Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of *the world* (John 1:29).

For God so loved *the world* that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that *the world* through Him might be saved (John 3:16-17).

The Father loves the Son, and has given *all things* into His hand (John 3:35; 13:3).

We no longer believe because of what you said, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of *the world* (John 4:42).

For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to *the world* (John 6:33).

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.... This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of *all* He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last

day (John 6:37, 39).

I am the light of *the world* (John 8:12).

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw *all men* to Myself (John 12:32).

Jesus knew that the Father had given *all things* into His hands (John 13:3).

For you granted him authority over *all people* that he might give eternal life to *all those* you have given him (John 17:2).

Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore *all things* (Acts 3:21).

As through one man's offense judgment came to *all men*, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to *all men*, resulting in justification of life (Romans 5:18).

He has shut up *all* to unbelief so that he might have mercy on *all* (Romans 11:32).

For from him and to him are *all things* (Romans 11:36).

For since death came through a man, the

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Us to Hope

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resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam *all* die, so also in Christ *all* will be made alive (1 Corinthians 15:21-22).

For God has put *everything* under His feet.... And when everything is subject to Christ, then the Son Himself will also be subject to the One who subjected *everything* to Him, so that God may be *all in all* (1 Corinthians 15:26-28).

He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one *all things* in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him (Ephesians 1:9-10).

And He put *all things* under His feet, and gave Him to be head over *all things* to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills *all in all* (Ephesians 1:22-23).

At the name of Jesus *every* knee will bow—of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth—and *every* tongue

should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:10-11).

He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of His glorious body, by the power that enables Him to subject *all things* to Himself (Philippians 3:21).

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over *all* creation. For *everything* was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—*all things* have been created through Him and for Him. He is before *all things*, and by Him *all things* hold together ...and through Him to reconcile *all things* to Himself by making peace through the blood of His cross—things on earth or things in heaven (Colossians 1:15-17, 20).

He desires *all people* to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4).

We labor and strive for this, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of *everyone*,

especially of those who believe (1 Timothy 4:10).

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to *all men* (Titus 2:11).

He appointed the Son heir of *all things*, and through whom also he made the universe. In these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of *all things* (Hebrews 1:2).

He is not willing that any should perish but that *all* should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9-10).

He Himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of *the whole world* (1 John 2:2).

I heard *every creature* in heaven, on earth, under the earth, on the sea, and everything in them say: Blessing and honor and glory and dominion to the One seated on the throne and to the Lamb, forever and ever! (Revelation 5:13).

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make *all things* new" (Revelation 21:5). □

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