



NEW COVENANT CHURCH

# Faith Refresher for 2023

PART TWO

## WHAT IS HOPE?

*Christ in you, the hope of all glorious things to come*

Colossians 1:27 (J.B. PHILLIPS)

PASTOR BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min.





NEW COVENANT CHURCH

2023

*"You crown the year with Your goodness,  
And Your paths drip with abundance."*

Psalm 65:11



## Hebrews 11:6

***Without faith it is impossible to please God,** because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*



# Hebrews 11:1

*Now faith is the **substance** of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.*



## **The primary characteristics of faith in God:**

1. It is belief that consistently takes action based on God's word (obedience)
2. it is energized by our relationship with God.



## Colossians 1:26-27 (J.B. PHILLIPS)

*They are those to whom God has planned to give a vision of the full wonder and splendor of his secret plan for the sons of men. And the secret is simply this: **Christ in you!** Yes, **Christ in you bringing with him the hope of all glorious things to come.***





**A drum major for justice...**



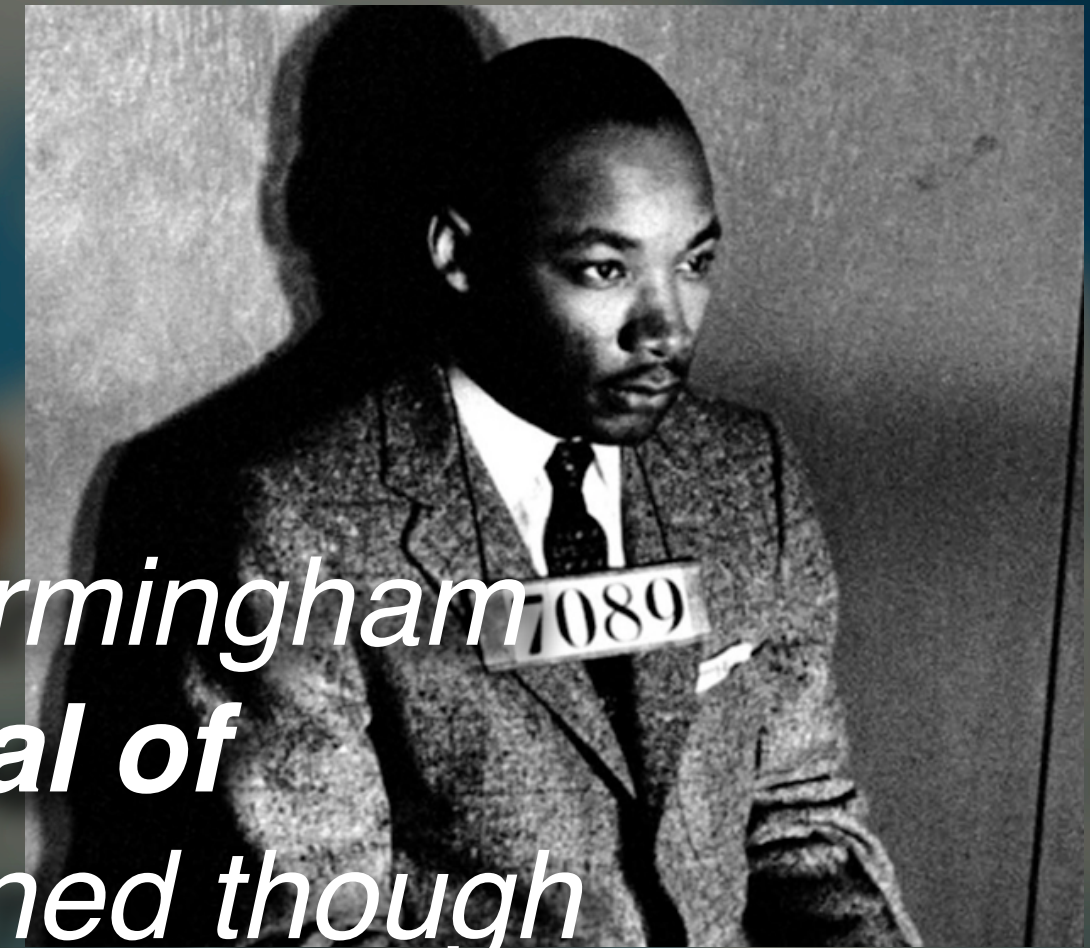
We all benefit from the faith, hope, and actions of others. But we tend not to notice especially when our lives have become “normal.”

The key is to remember that there are people, perhaps people you know, whose lives are not “normal.”



## Dr. King wrote in his letter from the Birmingham jail:

*“We will reach the goal of freedom in Birmingham and all over the nation, because the **goal of America is freedom**. Abused and scorned though we may be, our destiny is tied up with America's destiny. Before the pilgrims landed at Plymouth, we were here. Before the pen of Jefferson etched the majestic words of the Declaration of Independence across the pages of history, we were here.”*







*Photo Credit: James Karales*



*“For more than two centuries our forebears labored in this country without wages; they made cotton king; they built the homes of their masters while suffering gross injustice and shameful humiliation and yet out of a bottomless vitality they continued to thrive and develop. If the inexpressible cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail.”*



# Justice = Righteousness TEACHING SERIES

## Biblical & Social **JUSTICE** WHAT IS IT?

An Everyday Person's Guide to Understanding Justice  
And the Role of the Church in Our Society



Monday, January 16, 2023  
3:00pm EST

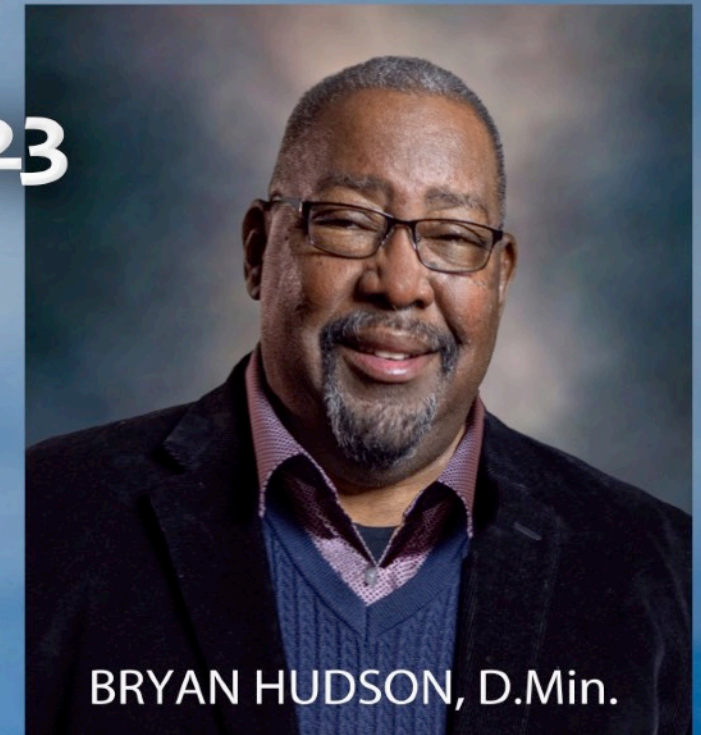
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BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min.

**TOPIC:** *Insights from Rev. Dr. King's  
Letter from the Birmingham Jail*

[www.BiblicalJusticeBook.com](http://www.BiblicalJusticeBook.com)

Clarity and understanding for today from Chapter Seven of my book:

***Justice, What Is It?** An Everyday Person's Guide to Understanding Justice and the Role of the Church*



**What are your hopes?**  
**What is hope?**  
**What is your frame?**



# What is Hope?

1. A picture of something good that can happen
2. Confident expectation
3. Anticipation of good
4. “Framing” or re-framing yourself and your circumstances



# How Framing Shapes Your Hope





# False Frames

“Personally, I believe in the light of King's powerful demagogic speech yesterday he stands head and shoulders over all other Negroid leaders put together when it comes to influencing great masses of Negroes. We must mark him now, if we have not done so before, **as the most dangerous Negro of the future in this Nation** from the standpoint of communism, the Negro, and national security.”

~ FBI Deputy Director William Sullivan



# What is Framing?

In the social sciences, **framing** is comprised of concepts and perspectives on how individuals, and groups organize, perceive, and communicate their view of reality.

Perception is often not reality.



# Frame Your Hopes

People often look at something or someone and then "apply" a frame to it.

People then to use frames that allow them to "sum it up" without taking time to understand.





**We Shall Overcome**

**Dr. King was not universally  
admired when he lived**



## Choose Your Frame. Craft Your Hope

**Romans 12:1**, *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. 3 [Do] not to think of [yourself] more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith*



## Choose Your Frame. Craft Your Hope

- **Present yourself to God** / in your frame, you belong to God
- **Do not be conformed** / don't accept a frame that does not belong to you
- **Think soberly** / you don't let everything into the frame of your mind
- **Walk in faith** / you trust what God can do more than anything else