a hope in the unseen

A Hope in the Unseen: Finding Strength Beyond What Meets the Eye

a hope in the unseen is a powerful and transformative force that shapes our lives in ways we often cannot immediately grasp. It is the quiet belief in possibilities, the faith that something better lies ahead, or the confidence that unseen forces are guiding us through challenges. This kind of hope transcends physical reality and taps into a deeper sense of trust and optimism that fuels perseverance and resilience. Whether in personal growth, spiritual journeys, or the pursuit of dreams, embracing hope in the unseen can illuminate paths that logic and sight alone cannot reveal.

The Essence of Hope in the Unseen

At its core, hope in the unseen is about believing in outcomes or realities that have not yet manifested. It is the intangible thread connecting our present struggles to future victories. This hope is not blind optimism but a grounded expectation based on faith, intuition, or inner conviction. It often emerges in moments of uncertainty when tangible evidence is scarce, yet the heart insists that something worthwhile is possible.

People across cultures and religions have long recognized hope in the unseen as a vital element of the human experience. For instance, in Christian theology, faith is described as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." This beautifully captures how hope and belief intertwine, encouraging individuals to trust beyond what is perceptible.

Why Do We Need Hope in the Unseen?

Life is unpredictable, and many goals or dreams require time before they become reality. Having hope in the unseen serves several important purposes:

- **Motivation During Hardship:** Hope sustains us through difficult times when immediate results are absent.
- **Encouragement to Take Risks:** Believing in possibilities that are not yet visible encourages stepping outside comfort zones.
- **Emotional Resilience:** It helps manage fear and anxiety by fostering a positive outlook on the future.
- **Connection to Purpose:** Hope aligns us with our deeper values and long-term vision, providing meaning.

Without hope in the unseen, people may fall into despair or stagnation, unable to envision better circumstances or personal growth.

How to Cultivate a Hope in the Unseen

Developing hope when the path isn't clear involves intentional practices and mindset shifts. Here are some insightful ways to nurture this vital form of hope:

1. Practice Patience and Trust the Process

One of the biggest challenges when holding onto hope in the unseen is managing impatience. Our modern world often demands quick results, but meaningful change takes time. Learning to be patient and trust the unfolding journey helps maintain hope even when progress is slow or invisible.

2. Visualize Positive Outcomes

Visualization is a powerful tool that allows the mind to 'see' success before it happens. Imagining positive scenarios and future achievements can reinforce belief in those outcomes, strengthening hope and inspiring action.

3. Surround Yourself with Supportive People

Community plays a crucial role in sustaining hope. Being around others who believe in your vision or who embody hope themselves can rekindle your own faith in the unseen. Encouragement, shared stories of triumph, and empathy make hope feel more tangible.

4. Reflect on Past Experiences of Unseen Hope

Remembering times when hope in the unseen led to positive results can reinforce current faith. Reflect on personal stories or historical examples where perseverance and belief resulted in success despite no immediate proof.

5. Embrace Spiritual or Mindful Practices

Meditation, prayer, or contemplation can deepen one's connection to hope beyond the physical world. These practices often foster inner peace and clarity, helping to maintain hope even when external circumstances seem bleak.

The Role of Hope in Personal Growth and Success

Hope in the unseen is not just a feel-good concept; it plays a practical role in achieving goals and

overcoming obstacles. When you believe that your efforts will eventually bear fruit, even if you can't see the immediate results, you are more likely to persist and innovate.

Hope Fuels Perseverance

Every success story involves moments of doubt and uncertainty. Hope acts as the fuel that keeps individuals moving forward despite setbacks. It encourages a mindset that views failures as temporary and challenges as opportunities to learn.

Hope Enhances Mental Health

Psychological research consistently shows that hopeful individuals experience lower levels of depression and anxiety. By focusing on potential positive outcomes, hope reduces stress and promotes emotional well-being.

Hope Encourages Creativity and Innovation

Believing in possibilities that are not yet visible opens the door to creative problem-solving. Hope pushes people to explore new ideas and take calculated risks, which are essential for innovation and growth.

Hope in the Unseen in Everyday Life

In daily life, hope in the unseen can manifest in many subtle but impactful ways. It might be the hope that a difficult conversation will lead to reconciliation, the belief that a small act of kindness will ripple outwards, or the faith that personal habits will eventually transform health and happiness.

Examples of Hope in the Unseen

- Career Advancement: Applying for a job or project without guaranteed success but hoping for opportunity.
- Healing and Recovery: Believing in health improvement despite ongoing symptoms or slow progress.
- **Relationships:** Trusting that efforts to build connection will eventually deepen bonds.
- **Parenting:** Hoping that guidance and love will shape children's future positively.

Each of these scenarios involves stepping into uncertainty with faith that the unseen outcomes will be favorable. This hope inspires action and choices that align with long-term benefits rather than immediate gratification.

Challenges to Maintaining Hope in the Unseen

While hope is a powerful resource, it is not always easy to sustain. Life's hardships, disappointments, and the tendency toward skepticism can erode this fragile belief.

Dealing with Doubt and Disillusionment

Doubt is a natural part of hope in the unseen. When evidence is lacking, skepticism can creep in. To manage doubt:

- Acknowledge it without letting it dominate your outlook.
- Revisit your reasons for hope and remind yourself of past successes.
- Seek encouragement from mentors or loved ones.

Avoiding False Hope

It's important to distinguish between realistic hope and wishful thinking. False hope can lead to inaction or repeated setbacks. Ground your hope in achievable goals and adjust expectations as new information emerges.

Embracing a Hope in the Unseen as a Lifelong Practice

Ultimately, hope in the unseen is less about a single moment of belief and more about cultivating a consistent attitude toward life. It involves embracing uncertainty with courage and trusting that unseen forces—whether spiritual, psychological, or social—are working toward good outcomes.

This kind of hope invites us to live with openness and resilience, to dream boldly, and to find peace in the journey rather than just the destination. It is a beacon that guides us through darkness and a reminder that sometimes the most meaningful things in life are those we cannot yet see.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'A Hope in the Unseen'?

The main theme of 'A Hope in the Unseen' is the struggle and perseverance of an African American student, Cedric Jennings, as he navigates the challenges of moving from an inner-city high school to

Who is the author of 'A Hope in the Unseen'?

The author of 'A Hope in the Unseen' is Ron Suskind.

What challenges does Cedric Jennings face in 'A Hope in the Unseen'?

Cedric Jennings faces academic, social, and economic challenges including adapting to a new environment, dealing with racial and class disparities, and overcoming self-doubt.

How does 'A Hope in the Unseen' portray the education system?

The book portrays the education system as unequal and challenging, highlighting the disparities between inner-city schools and elite universities, and the obstacles faced by students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Why is 'A Hope in the Unseen' considered an important book?

It is considered important because it provides an insightful look into the realities of educational inequality and the perseverance required to overcome systemic barriers.

What impact has 'A Hope in the Unseen' had on readers and educators?

The book has inspired discussions on educational reform, diversity, and inclusion, encouraging educators to support students from underrepresented backgrounds more effectively.

Is 'A Hope in the Unseen' based on a true story?

Yes, it is a non-fiction narrative based on the real-life experiences of Cedric Jennings.

What lessons can students learn from 'A Hope in the Unseen'?

Students can learn about resilience, determination, and the importance of hope and hard work in overcoming adversity and achieving their goals.

Additional Resources

A Hope in the Unseen: Exploring Faith, Resilience, and the Power of Belief

a hope in the unseen has long been a compelling concept across cultures, philosophies, and religions. It represents the human capacity to trust in outcomes, realities, or truths that are not immediately visible or measurable. This notion transcends mere optimism, delving into an intricate

interplay between faith, resilience, and the psychological mechanisms that help individuals navigate uncertainty. Understanding this phenomenon sheds light on how people sustain motivation, overcome adversity, and find meaning in situations where tangible evidence is lacking.

The phrase "a hope in the unseen" gained popular recognition through literature and theological discourse, notably in works such as "Hope in the Unseen" by Ron Suskind, which chronicles the journey of a young man facing socioeconomic challenges while aspiring to academic success. Beyond its literary significance, the phrase encapsulates a universal human experience—believing in possibilities beyond current circumstances.

The Psychology Behind Hope in the Unseen

From a psychological standpoint, hope is more than a fleeting feeling; it is a cognitive process that involves setting goals, finding pathways to achieve them, and maintaining the motivation to pursue those paths despite obstacles. When the "unseen" element is introduced—meaning the absence of immediate proof or certainty—hope takes on a more complex form that requires an individual to rely on internal conviction rather than external validation.

Research in positive psychology highlights that hope can function as a resilience factor. Studies indicate that individuals who maintain hope in uncertain or adverse situations often report better mental health outcomes and exhibit greater perseverance. For example, a 2019 study published in the Journal of Clinical Psychology found that hope correlates strongly with effective coping strategies, reduced depressive symptoms, and improved problem-solving abilities.

However, hope in the unseen is not without its challenges. One potential downside is the risk of unrealistic expectations, which can lead to disappointment or inaction if individuals rely solely on hope without concrete planning or effort. Balancing hope with pragmatism is therefore essential.

Faith as a Framework for Hope

Religious and spiritual traditions frequently emphasize hope in the unseen as a foundational principle. Faith, by definition, involves belief in doctrines, deities, or principles that are not empirically observable. Many faith-based communities teach adherents to cultivate hope as a means of coping with life's uncertainties and hardships.

For instance, in Christianity, Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." This scriptural reference encapsulates the intertwining of hope and unseen realities. Similarly, in Islam, the concept of "Tawakkul" encourages trust in divine will despite human limitations.

These spiritual frameworks provide structured ways to interpret challenges, offering adherents a sense of purpose and assurance. The collective aspect of faith communities can also reinforce hope, creating social support networks that enhance resilience.

Hope in the Unseen in Modern Society

In contemporary contexts, the idea of hope in the unseen permeates various domains beyond religion, including science, innovation, and social movements. Entrepreneurs, researchers, and activists often operate on the basis of believing in possibilities that have yet to materialize.

Innovation and Scientific Endeavors

Scientific progress frequently depends on hypothesizing and experimenting with concepts that are initially invisible or theoretical. The development of vaccines, space exploration, and technological breakthroughs all require a foundational hope in outcomes that are not yet proven. This form of hope motivates sustained inquiry despite setbacks and uncertainties.

Moreover, investment in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and renewable energy exemplifies collective hope in future benefits that are not guaranteed but pursued through rigorous effort and optimism.

Social Movements and Hope for Change

Social justice initiatives and reform movements are often fueled by a hope in the unseen—that societal transformation is possible despite entrenched inequalities or opposition. Historical examples, such as the civil rights movement in the United States, demonstrate how hope catalyzes action and perseverance over decades.

Activists rely on envisioning a better future, which may be intangible in the present. The emotional and psychological sustenance derived from this hope enables sustained engagement and risk-taking in pursuit of social progress.

Balancing Hope with Realism

While hope in the unseen can be a powerful motivator, it is critical to examine how it interacts with realism. Blind hope or wishful thinking without actionable strategies can lead to stagnation or disillusionment. Successful navigation of uncertainty often involves a dual approach: maintaining hope while grounding efforts in data, feedback, and adaptability.

Strategies to Cultivate Healthy Hope

- **Set Clear Goals:** Defining measurable and achievable objectives provides direction and helps translate hope into concrete steps.
- **Develop Contingency Plans:** Preparing for potential obstacles ensures resilience when initial

hopes are challenged.

- Engage in Reflective Practices: Mindfulness and journaling can help individuals assess their hopes critically and adjust expectations.
- **Seek Support Systems:** Social networks, mentors, or communities reinforce hope by sharing experiences and encouragement.
- Balance Optimism and Skepticism: Healthy hope involves optimism tempered by critical thinking to avoid unrealistic assumptions.

The Cultural Resonance of Hope in the Unseen

Culturally, hope in the unseen resonates because it addresses fundamental human experiences—uncertainty, vulnerability, and the desire for meaning. Literature, art, and media frequently explore this theme, reflecting societal struggles and aspirations.

For example, narratives of immigration and exile often depict protagonists holding onto hope amid invisible barriers and unknown futures. Similarly, artistic expressions—whether through painting, music, or film—capture the tension between despair and hope, visibility and invisibility.

This cultural dimension underscores why hope in the unseen remains a potent motif: it connects individual inner worlds with collective human conditions.

The enduring significance of a hope in the unseen lies in its capacity to inspire action, sustain resilience, and foster belief in possibilities beyond immediate perception. Whether manifested through faith, innovation, social change, or personal growth, this hope serves as a vital force navigating the complexities of existence.

A Hope In The Unseen

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a hope in the unseen: A Hope in the Unseen Ron Suskind, 1998 The inspiring true story of a ferociously determined young man who, armed only with his intellect and his willpower, fights his way out of despair. At Ballou Senior High, a crime-infested school in Washington, D.C., honor students have learned to keep their heads down. Among the mere handful of students with a B average or better, some plead to have their names left off the Wall of Honor bulletin board; others hide during awards ceremonies; only a few dare to raise their hands in class. Like most inner-city kids, they know that any special attention in a place this dangerous can make you a target of

violence. But Cedric Jennings, the lanky son of a jailed drug dealer, will not swallow his pride, though each day he struggles to decide who he wants to be. With unwavering support from his mother, he studies and strives as if his life depends on it--and it does. The summer after his junior year, at a program for minorities at MIT, he gets a fleeting glimpse of life outside Ballou--an image that burns in his mind afterward and fills him with a longing to live in such a world. In his senior year, walking a gauntlet of sneers and threats, he achieves a 4.02 grade-point average and then the impossible: acceptance into Brown University, an Ivy League school. At Brown, finding himself far behind most of the other freshmen in his academic training and his knowledge of broader culture, Cedric must manage a bewildering array of intellectual and social challenges. Cedric had hoped that at college he would finally find a place to fit in, but he discovers he has little in common with the white students, many of whom come from privileged backgrounds and party hard while acing tests. Even the middle-class blacks have trouble understanding Cedric, a straight-arrow church kid from the ghetto who seems like an obvious product of affirmative action. As he struggles to master classwork and think like a scholar, he realizes that faith alone can take him only so far. Having traveled too far to turn back, Cedric is left to rely on his intelligence and his determination to keep alive his hope in the unseen--a future of acceptance and reward that he struggles, each day, to envision. Ron Suskind first wrote about Cedric Jennings in a pair of articles for the Wall Street Journal, which later won the Pulitzer Prize. Now, having spent three years at Cedric's side, Suskind delivers a triumphant coming-of-age odyssey that includes us all. Eye-opening, sometimes humorous, and often deeply moving, A Hope in the Unseen weaves a crucial new thread into the rich and ongoing narrative of the American experience.

- a hope in the unseen: <u>Booktalks Plus</u> Lucy Schall, 2001-04-15 Obesity in a world where thin is endlessly in vogue, pros and cons of tattoos and body piercing, and family blending. This guide leads you to quality literature that inspires students to read and discover more about these and many other issues they find relevant. Booktalks for more than 100 titles are accompanied by motivational activities and lists of related works. In addition, pithy book summaries and bibliographic information are given. Fiction and nonfiction titles, most published since 1995, were selected with curriculum connections in mind and are arranged topically.
- a hope in the unseen: The Spirit over the Earth Green et al, 2016 Though the global center of Christianity has been shifting south and east over the past few decades, very few theological resources have dealt with the seismic changes afoot. The Majority World Theology series seeks to remedy that lack by gathering well-regarded Christian thinkers from around the world to discuss the significance of Christian teaching in their respective contexts. The contributors to this volume reflect deeply on the role of the Holy Spirit in both the church and the world in dialogue with their respective contexts and cultures. Taking African, Asian, and Latin American cultural contexts into account gives rise to fresh questions and insights regarding the Spirit's work as witnessed in the world and demonstrates how the theological heritage of the West is not adequate alone to address the theological necessities of communities worldwide.
- a hope in the unseen: The Transition Daniel Kiel, 2023-04-04 Every Supreme Court transition presents an opportunity for a shift in the balance of the third branch of American government, but the replacement of Thurgood Marshall with Clarence Thomas in 1991 proved particularly momentous. Not only did it shift the ideological balance on the Court; it was inextricably entangled with the persistent American dilemma of race. In The Transition, this most significant transition is explored through the lives and writings of the first two African American justices on Court, touching on the lasting consequences for understandings of American citizenship as well as the central currents of Black political thought over the past century. In their lives, Thurgood Marshall and Clarence Thomas experienced the challenge of living and learning in a world that had enslaved their relatives and that continued to subjugate members of their racial group. On the Court, their judicial writings—often in concurrences or dissents—richly illustrate the ways in which these two individuals embodied these crucial American (and African American) debates—on the balance between state and federal authority, on the government's responsibility to protect its citizens against

discrimination, and on the best strategies for pursuing justice. The gap between Justices Marshall and Thomas on these questions cannot be overstated, and it reveals an extraordinary range of thought that has yet to be fully appreciated. The 1991 transition from Justice Marshall to Justice Thomas has had consequences that are still unfolding at the Court and in society. Arguing that the importance of this transition has been obscured by the relegation of these Justices to the sidelines of Supreme Court history, Daniel Kiel shows that it is their unique perspective as Black justices – the lives they have lived as African Americans and the rooting of their judicial philosophies in the relationship of government to African Americans – that makes this succession echo across generations.

- a hope in the unseen: Hope Unseen Scotty Smiley, Doug Crandall, 2010-09-14 The inspiring, unflinching true story of "blind" faith, as Major Scotty Smiley awakes in a hospital bed and realizes his world is permanently dark he must stretch his faith like never before. Courageous, heartfelt, and honest, Hope Unseen challenges readers to guestion their doubts, not their beliefs, and depend upon God no matter what. A nervous glance from a man in a parked car. Muted instincts from a soldier on patrol. Violent destruction followed by total darkness. Two weeks later, Scotty Smiley woke up in Walter Reed Army Medical Center, helpless . . . and blind. Blindness became Scotty's journey of supreme testing. As he lay helpless in the hospital, Captain Smiley resented the theft of his dreams—becoming a CEO, a Delta Force operator, or a four-star general. With his wife Tiffany's love and the support of his family and friends, Scotty was transformed—the injury only intensifying his indomitable spirit. Since the moment he jumped out of a hospital bed and forced his way through nurses and cords to take a simple shower, Captain Scotty Smiley has climbed Mount Rainier, won an ESPY as Best Outdoor Athlete, surfed, skydived, become a father, earned an MBA from Duke, taught leadership at West Point, commanded an army company, and won the MacArthur Leadership Award. Scotty and Tiffany Smiley have lived out a faith so real that it will inspire you to question your own doubts, push you to serve something bigger than yourself, and encourage you to cling to a Hope Unseen.
- a hope in the unseen: Memory as Life, Life as Memory William E. Marsh, 2016-09-07 This book is about memory, the power of memory, the weight of memory, the presence of memory. Its about how memory works, and its about how memory moves and shapes us, profoundly and deeply, every moment of every day. Most of all, however, its about how memory points us to some questions that, try as we might, we cannot elude altogether, questions that force us to confront the very nature of existence. Suppose that no one, no one at all, remembered us? Suppose that no one, no one at all, remembered the universe? How can we make sense of a world that one day will be utterly gone and forgotten? Memory makes us speak of things we may not want to accept or understand, thrusts us into things lying beyond what we can picture, imagine, or know. Twisting itself around our heart and burrowing into our soul, memory stretches us. It stretches us to ponder purpose, it stretches us to consider meaning. Memory forces us to think about how unbearably complex we, and this bewildering world, can be if nothing precedes or follows them. Memory opens our heart to God.
- a hope in the unseen: From Foster Care to College Royel M Johnson, 2024-10-25 This book chronicles the lived experiences of 47 college students navigating the challenging terrains of the United States' foster care system. Through insightful, in-depth life story interviews, Johnson offers insight into the harsh realities of how our nation's education, welfare, and other social systems often intertwine in ways that diminish the potential and opportunities for these young people. Yet, amidst these adversities, the stories resonate with themes of hope, resistance, and possibility. Guided by resilience theory and other asset-based concepts, Johnson sheds light on the protective mechanisms that enable postsecondary access and success, even in the face of towering barriers--
- a hope in the unseen: Majority World Theology Gene L. Green, Stephen T. Pardue, K. K. Yeo, 2020-12-01 More Christians live in the Majority World than in Europe and North America. Yet most theological literature does not reflect the rising tide of Christian reflection coming from these regions. Bringing together theological resources from past and present, East and West, this work engages conversations with leading global scholars on theology, faith, and mission for the

enrichment of the entire church.

- **a hope in the unseen: Making the grade?** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Government Reform, 2006
- a hope in the unseen: The Holiest of All. An Exposition of the Epistle to the Hebrews Andrew Murray, 1895
- a hope in the unseen: <u>Lifelines for Tough Times</u> Mike Fabarez, 2014-07-01 When tough times hit, we often find ourselves vulnerable—to doubt, fear, worry, even depression. We ask, "Does God care? Has He forgotten me?" So why does God allow suffering? Author Mike Fabarez—who is well acquainted with deep pain himself as the father of a special-needs child and as a pastor who has counseled many through life's hurts—looks to the truths of Scripture for answers. Along the way, he shares... how complete trust in God alone can restore your confidence and hopethe power of focusing on God's eternal goals for you in life's temporary setbacksGod's promises to love and protect you no matter what happens This book will not only help you understand why God allows suffering—it will provide you with the resources to stand strong, rest in God's care, and endure!
- a hope in the unseen: From Despair to Hope Henry G. Cisneros, Lora Engdahl, 2010-10-01 For decades, the federal government's failure to provide decent and affordable housing to very low-income families has given rise to severely distressed urban neighborhoods that defeat the best hopes of both residents and local officials. Now, however, there is cause for optimism. From Despair to Hope documents the evolution of HOPE VI, a federal program that promotes mixed-income housing integrated with services and amenities to replace the economically and socially isolated public housing complexes of the past. As one of the most ambitious urban development initiatives in the last half century, HOPE VI has transformed the landscape in Atlanta, Baltimore, Louisville, Seattle, and other cities, providing vivid examples of a true federal-urban partnership and offering lessons for policy innovators. In From Despair to Hope, Henry Cisneros and Lora Engdahl collaborate with public and private sector leaders who were on the scene in the early 1990s when the intolerable conditions in the nation's worst public housing projects—and their devastating impact on inhabitants, neighborhoods, and cities—called for drastic action. These eyewitnesses from the policymaking, housing development, and architecture fields reveal how a program conceived to address one specific problem revolutionized the entire public housing system and solidified a set of principles that guide urban policy today. This vibrant, full-color exploration of HOPE VI details the fate of residents, neighborhoods, cities, and public housing systems through personal testimony, interviews, case studies, data analyses, research summaries, photographs, and more. Contributors examine what HOPE VI has accomplished as it brings disadvantaged families into more economically mixed communities. They also turn a critical eye on where the program falls short of its ideals. This important book continues the national conversation on poverty, race, and opportunity as the country moves ahead under a new president. Contributors: Richard D. Baron (McCormack Baron Salazar), Peter Calthorpe (Calthorpe Associates), Sheila Crowley (National Low-Income Housing Coalition), Mary K. Cunningham (Urban Institute), Richard C. Gentry (San Diego Housing Commission), Renée Lewis Glover (Atlanta Housing Authority), Bruce Katz (Brookings Institution), G. Thomas Kingsley (Urban Institute), Alexander Polikoff (Business and Professional People for the Public Interest), Susan J. Popkin (Urban Institute), Margery Austin Turner (Urban Institute), and Ronald D. Utt (Heritage Foundation). Poverty & Race
 - a hope in the unseen: Paul's Letter to the Romans John Paul Heil, 2002-03-28
- a hope in the unseen: The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 26, No. 05: God's Economy in Faith Various Authors, 2022-07-01 This issue of The Ministry of the Word contains the eight messages of the international training for elders and responsible ones hosted by Living Stream Ministry on April 1-3, 2022. The messages were provided via webcast from Anaheim, California, and the mutual fellowship, prophesying, and studying by groups were practiced locally by the various churches that participated. The general subject of this series of messages is God's Economy in Faith. God's economy is God's household administration, which is to dispense Himself in Christ into His chosen and redeemed people that He may have a house to express Himself, which house is the church, the

Body of Christ. God's economy is initiated and developed in the sphere of faith (1 Tim. 1:4). Faith is the substantiation of the divine facts concerning God revealed in His Word. Faith is the unique requirement for us to contact God in His economy and the unique way for us to carry out His economy. Faith is a proclamation that we are unable to fulfill God's requirements but that God has done everything for us and that we receive all God has planned for us, all God has done for us, and all God has given to us. For this reason, as believers, we need to be persons of prayer who pray with God as our faith. The real significance of prayer is to contact God in our spirit and to absorb God Himself. A praying person will cooperate with God, work together with God, and allow God to express Himself and His desire from within him and through him, thereby enabling God to accomplish His purpose. All the saints need faith and are the household of faith. The leading ones are particularly charged to be men full of faith in order that they can infuse the saints under their care with faith so that all can experience God's economy daily and even moment by moment. The leading ones' manner of life, the way they live and conduct themselves, should be worthy of consideration and an example of faith that is worthy of imitation (Heb. 13:7). When those who take the lead have such imitable faith, they are participating in the apostolic ministry, which cooperates with Christ's heavenly ministry to shepherd the saints according to God (Acts 20:28). We live the Christian life and run the Christian race by looking away unto Jesus--the Author, the Originator, of our faith and the Perfecter, the Completer, of our faith--and by turning away from every other object to Him who is the greatest attraction in the universe. If we look away unto Him as such a wonderful and all-inclusive One, He will minister Himself as heaven, life, and strength into us, transfusing and infusing us with all that He is, so that we may be able to run the heavenly race and live the heavenly life on earth. In this way He will carry us through all the lifelong pathway of faith and lead and bring us into glory. Furthermore, our faith in Christ brings us into the life union with Christ. This faith links us to the Triune God and enables us to run the race that every saved Christian must run with endurance to win the prize. We can live the Christian life, live Christ, by this linking organ of faith. By this faith we are joined to God in Christ to participate in all that the all-inclusive Christ is, has, and has attained to, for the producing of the organic members of Christ to constitute and build up His organic Body, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem as the enlargement and expression of the eternal Triune God. The Announcements section at the end of this issue contains a list of upcoming conferences and trainings hosted by Living Stream Ministry and a website link for information related to similar events in Europe.

a hope in the unseen: An Intertextual Commentary on Romans, Volume 2 Channing L. Crisler, 2021-12-16 An Intertextual Commentary on Romans is an exhaustive treatment of the hundreds of Old Testament citations, allusions, and echoes embedded in Paul's most famous epistle. As many scholars have acknowledged, to understand Paul's engagement with Israel's Scriptures is to understand Romans. Despite this acknowledgement, there is a dearth of reference works in which the primary focus is how the Old Testament impacts Paul's argument from Romans 1:1 to 16:27. This four-volume commentary aims to provide just such a reference. The interplay between Romans and its vast sea of Old Testament pre-texts produces unstated points of resonance that illuminate Paul's rhetorical argument from the letter's opening to its closing doxology. Volume 2 examines the scriptural pre-texts in Romans 5:1—8:39. While this portion of Romans contains only one full citation, it is teeming with scriptural allusions and echoes that are critical to understanding Paul's argumentation. Crisler leaves no intertextual stone unturned as he probes the subtext of one of the richest sections in the entire Pauline corpus. From Paul's key transition in Romans 5:1 to his poetic flourish in 8:31-39, and everywhere in between, Crisler explores the interplay between the apostle's endless engagement with Israel's Scriptures and his message to the Christians in Rome. This volume contributes to the commentary's overarching aim which is to provide scholars, interpreters, and students with verse by verse analysis of how Israel's Scriptures impact almost every clause of Paul's most famous letter.

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- **a hope in the unseen: City of Rhetoric** David Fleming, 2009-07-01 Examines the relationship of civic discourse to built environments through a case study of the Cabrini Green urban revitalization project in Chicago.
- a hope in the unseen: A Charitable Orthopathy John W. Morehead, Brandon C. Benziger, 2020-04-07 Evangelicals and other conservative Christians of the twenty-first century face enormous challenges in the pluralistic public square, not least with Muslims and atheists. Contrary to biblical injunctions to "keep in step with the Spirit" (Gal 5:25b) and to love our neighbors as ourselves (e.g., Matt 22:37-40; Luke 10:25-37)—both of which involve not only behavioral but also important affective elements—we often harbor deep-seated antipathies toward atheists and adherents of other religions. While such feelings are at times justified and help us cope with conflict-related tragedies, they are also often baseless, misconstrued, and counterproductive, priming us to avoid religious others, support discriminatory policies against them, and even confront them in verbal or physical ways. The purpose of this volume is to offer an academically informed yet practically oriented collection of essays that challenges and encourages Christians to engage their religious neighbors in a much more loving, compassionate, hopeful, and courageous—indeed, orthopathic—manner, whether in the realm of politics, in debate and conference venues, on the mission field, or in their own homes, schools, churches, and neighborhoods. As such, a set of reflection and discussion questions is included to facilitate individual and/or group study.

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