



HOPE

IN THE DARKNESS

Studies in I Peter



HOPE

IN THE DARKNESS

The Word Which was Preached to You
1 Peter 1:22-2:3

INTRODUCTION

- *3 Ways We Must be Shaped by the Gospel*
 - The Gospel must shape how we think.
 - The Gospel must shape how we behave.
 - The Gospel must shape how we fear.
- **Key Question:** How do our lives become shaped by the Gospel?
- **Key Answer:** We need a map or an instructional manual.
- *John 17:17 – Sanctify them through Your truth; Your Word is truth.*



HOPE
IN THE DARKNESS

The Word of God Transforms

- God's Word and Our Positional Holiness
- God's Word and Our Progressive Holiness
 - God's Word produces the ability to fervently love our Christian family.
 - *“for a sincere love of the brethren”*
 - *“fervently love one another from the heart”*



HOPE
IN THE DARKNESS

The Word of God Transforms

Agape love “is a love of rational goodwill that desires the highest good for the one loved, even at the expense of self.”

– D. Edmond Hiebert

“Love moves freely between toughness and tenderness based on whatever is needed at the moment to advance the mission of forming Christlikeness in others.”

- Jim Berg



HOPE
IN THE DARKNESS

The Word of God Transforms

- God's Word and Our Positional Holiness
- God's Word and Our Progressive Holiness
 - God's Word produces the ability to fervently love our Christian family.
 - God's Word empowers us to rid ourselves of habits that prevent Christian love.
 - Malice
 - Deceit
 - Hypocrisy
 - Envy
 - Slander



HOPE
IN THE DARKNESS

The Word of God Lives and Endures

Two Images that Demonstrate that God's Word Lives and Endures

- God's Word is like imperishable seed.
- God's Word is not like flesh, grass or flowers.



HOPE
IN THE DARKNESS

The Word of God Nourishes

- The Word of God, like milk to a newborn, grows a Christian.
- The Word of God, like milk to a newborn, satisfies a Christian.

Psalm 34:8 – O taste and see that the Lord is good; how blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him.



HOPE
IN THE DARKNESS

CONCLUDING APPLICATIONS:

1. Have you obeyed the truth of the Gospel?
2. Are you growing in your active love for your brothers and sisters in Christ?
3. Are you growing by putting aside habits that inhibit Christian love?
4. Are you growing in your longing for the nourishment of God's Word?



HOPE
IN THE DARKNESS