

HALLELUJAH

B O R N T O P R A I S E

Sunday 2nd December 2018

Cheryl McCallum

Eph 1:6-8

Hallelujah, Hope is Coming

A 2008 report shows 3 million Australians were diagnosed with depression, leading to anxiety. This, when Australia is cited as one of the world's richest countries. Why should this be?

How would you link anxiousness with a loss of hope?

Why is Christmas a most anxious time for many people?

How would you describe "*hope*"?

For the Christian, is "*hope*" a verb or a noun?

Discuss G K Chesterton's quote - "Hope means hoping when things are hopeless, or it is no virtue at all... As long as matters are really hopeful, hope is mere flattery or platitude; it is only when everything is hopeless that hope begins to be a strength."

What hope did the coming of Jesus 2000 years ago bring to the Jews and to us?

Read Isaiah 60 : 1 - 3. Note that these words were said to the Israelites 700 years before Christ came, in a time when the nation was oppressed and downtrodden. What was Isaiah referring to that was to come?

Read Psalm 71 : 1 - 9. What is the main theme of these verses?

Read Matthew 3 : 1 - 3. What was John foretelling? What would it have meant to the people?

At the onset of the advent season, think on the coming of Jesus at the first advent, and His return at the second advent. How does this effect you?

