

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

12/17/17 - Hopeful And Strong

[RG AUDIO 121717](#)

Psalm 31:14-24

In anticipation of the celebration of Christmas, Psalm 31 is highly fitting. The anguish of Israel in that time was deep, their hope strained and failing. All seemed to point to hopelessness. Nevertheless, it was into that very situation that God did a new thing: He sent the Messiah!

It should not be lost on us that in the earlier verses of Psalm 31 are found the final words of Jesus on the cross as He breathed His last breath: "Into your hands I commit my spirit" (Psalm 31:5a). It is in light of that very reality that we can say with David, "Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD" (v. 24).

This is not a psalm for the skeptical. This is a cry of desperate hope. This is hope that will not go away, because it is based on something far more pervasive and real than all the despair and ruin around us. God is not done in by our circumstances. God knows where we are, has not abandoned us, and will bring to pass all that He has promised!

Author: Jesse C. Middendorf