

The Security of Hope

“Therefore, we who have fled to Him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold on to the hope that lies before us. This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls.” Hebrews 6:18-19, NLT

One of the most wonderful things that we have the ability to do with our hands is to hold on to something. All of these bones and muscles can work together to close tightly around something and hold on to it; an amazing act of creation in itself. In our relationship with God, we see two sides to this action of “holding on”. Scripture talks about how we must hold on to Him...but yet He holds on to us. As I was trying to picture how this can happen at the same time, I thought about my recent experience riding the SkyTram at the airport. When I got onto the SkyTram, it started moving just after I got inside, and I was knocked off balance. Just in time I grabbed the safety pole and held on, and was kept from falling. At the same time, however, the tram was securely holding me! I was completely closed in, and even if I had stumbled and fallen, I would have only fallen so far; to the floor, perhaps, but I could not have fallen out of the tram to the earth far below. That safety pole was an immovable anchor within a solid enclosure that was holding me, even when everything else was moving around me.

Like my experience on that SkyTram, life may throw us off balance; but we must seize the hope that we have in Jesus and hang on! The author of Hebrews tells us that we can have “great confidence” that the hope we have taken hold of is a secure and immovable hope, and will enable us to stand upright. What exactly is that hope? In His word we read that “our hope is in the living God, who is the Savior of all people...” (I Tim. 4:10). Even if my hands grow weak and I lose my grip, His hand remains strong and keeps me enclosed within His mercy and grace. Isaiah 46: 3-4 says, “...I have cared for you since you were born. Yes, I carried you before you were born. I will be your God throughout your lifetime—until your hair is white with age. I made you, and I will care for you. I will carry you along and save you.” Hold on to the Hope that lies within you, even as you are being upheld by His hand.

Questions to Ponder:

1. We know how to use the physical muscles in our hands to hold on to an object. What are some ways we can use our “spiritual muscles” to hold on to hope?
2. What should you do when you feel like you’ve “lost your grip”?