

# ScriptureGram

*A brief word from God's Word*

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Subject: Reason For Hope

I was encouraged in reading the May/June issue of "Circuit Rider" (a magazine for United Methodist Pastors that I still receive). There were a number of articles referring to the HOPE that all might be saved.

Here are a few miscellaneous quotes:

"How many, in the end, will be with God? Wesley wisely does not give an answer, but he does offer some clues. That many hinder or ignore prevenient grace is a warning to everyone. That God's love is universal, and God's desire that everyone be saved, is grounds for great hope." (Henry H. Knight III, Professor of Wesleyan Studies at Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City MO)

Talking about an athiest friend, another writer ponders the question, "What about Kat? Do you think she's going to hell?" Her conclusion: "Will Christ one day turn to her and say, You didn't call me by name, but you lived in my Spirit. You didn't know it was I you were feeding and clothing and visiting, but it was. Come on in my daughter? I don't know. But I sure like to think so." (Carol Cavin-Dillon, Associate Pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Franklin TN)

An article by David Yount, a "widely read religious writer" provides the following quotations.

"Michael Cooper-White, president of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, PA, confesses to being 'a hopeful universalist – I hope in the end God saves all, and am willing to leave such decisions in the hands of the One whose wisdom is far beyond our own.'" And ... "Max L. Carter, director of Friends Center at Guilford College, quotes the theologian Robert Barclay: 'Christ has tasted death for everyone,' including 'those who by some unavoidable accident were excluded from the benefit of this knowledge.'"

How many there must be within the traditional church ... even pastors and professors ... that know there is a reason for hope that God will save all, but who do not know this is exactly what the Bible teaches? It is only the errant translations and errant teachings of the church that cloud this fact.

It is not that we HOPE God will save all ... it is our EXPECTATION that He will do so ... for the Bible tells us so!

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*- Bob Evely -*