



Peace At Last Ministries (PALM)

Sharing God's comfort with the terminally-ill, their loved ones and caregivers.

eGlimpse #186 — April 2022
Paul & Kathleen Humphreys

My Hope!

Years ago, my family and I lived and worked in the mountains of Papua New Guinea near Australia. While there we observed an exquisite population of butterflies. Some were tiny, some quite large. Most noticeable, however was the stark contrast between the underside and topside of their delicate wings, a contrast that is universal among the species. What a difference perspective can make!

I have a specimen among my visual aids. It's mounted in a glass case. And I've shown it to many of my hospice patients and their families as a way of helping them understand our hope in the Creator God of the Bible.

I begin by showing the underside of the butterfly with its muted earth-tones. The mirror-like designs, coupled with its delicate flight-enabling structures, make the butterfly an insect unlike any other. And to think it began life as a lowly caterpillar!

Only God has the power to create and to maintain life at such a level. He holds the patent on life itself and is fully capable, as all the butterflies in the world show, of infusing life into even the smallest and most intricate of earth's creatures. After all, He is the God,



...who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it... Isaiah 42:5 ESV

The visual aid helps focus on God's creative power, that He is able to accomplish what is impossible from a human standpoint, namely resurrection and eternal life. Those who see the butterfly are quite impressed with its underside! But they don't yet realize there is another viewpoint. It is then I turn the butterfly over to reveal its topside.



What a difference perspective makes!

This contrast reminds me how our present earthly state, while beautiful on many levels, is still a far cry from what the all-powerful Creator has planned for those who take him at his word. He is the God,

...who raised him [Jesus] from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. 1 Peter 1:21

Elsewhere in the Bible Jesus comforted a grieving family with these words,

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. John 11:25

One day God will change our earthly perspective forever. He will bring an end to sin, suffering and death. And when he does, our present circumstances will be eclipsed by heaven's topside view.

All God requires is that we take him at his word!

For You are my hope, O Lord God; Psalm 71:5a

PALM Picture Poster

NEW!

We have created a new letter-sized PALM picture poster titled, "My Hope!" It uses the above butterfly images and content to convey God's message of hope found in Jesus Christ. These can be freely downloaded and printed for your personal use.

Perhaps someone you know could benefit from this new PALM resource.

Link: <http://palministries.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/My-Hope-Print.pdf>

Ever grateful for your prayers and support,

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