

NOT BY *Chance*



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"Genesis 3"
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Fairmount's "one word" for 2024 is "**hope**".

Our hope comes from one source: **Jesus**.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Fixing our eyes on Jesus begins in the **Old Testament**.

Jesus' arrival was "**Not by Chance**".

It all began in the beginning – in **Genesis**.

Genesis 3:14-15

So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

From the beginning, a **future descendent** of the first man and woman would **destroy** the one who sought to destroy them.

God took them from **doom** and **hopelessness** to **promise** and **hope**.

Jesus is that hope.

Not by chance – but by **God's plan**.

1 John 3:7-8

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

John tells us that Jesus' **purpose** on earth was to **destroy the work** of the evil one.

He did – **He is** – and **He will**.

Put your hope in the One who has **overcome it all**.

John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."