

Second Week of Advent  
Friday 11 December 2020

### Reflection 13 – Day 13

#### ***Hold on***

Advent is a time of looking forward. Looking forward to something that is yet to come. Most of us have been anxiously looking forward to the vaccine arriving and to begin to see an end of this very different and challenging year that we have all been through.

There have been lots of promises about the vaccine:

- It will come.
- It is coming.
- It's on its way.
- It will be here by such and such a date.

But what perhaps we can say about the vaccine is that none of us have lost heart. We know that people have been working on it. We know that it has to be tested. We know that it needs to be safe to be rolled out and so we wait with expectancy for it to come and for our turn in the queue to receive that vaccine.

Our passage today is written to a group of persecuted believers, they are people who in persecution could lose heart. They could have thought, '*is this really all worth it?*'

And Peter writes to them to say, '*hold on*'. Your sufferings of today are worth pushing through with because hope is coming. One day of suffering will be replaced by a thousand years with the Lord because the Lord is not slow in keeping His promises.

So I wonder what it is that could cause you to lose heart?

*Lord, I've been suffering this year.*

*It's been difficult with family.*

*It's been difficult with health.*

*There are difficulties with finances.*

*There are difficulties with ... you can fill in the blanks.*

*Are you going to answer my prayers?*

*Can I hold on?*

And the Lord would say to us, '*yes, hold on*'.

For there is hope.

There is resurrection for all of us and one day of trouble today will be replaced with a thousand years of joy in the presence of the Lord.

So I pray today that we would know the joy and strength of Jesus and keep our eyes fixed on Him as we wait for Him to come and renew and redeem us all.

Amen