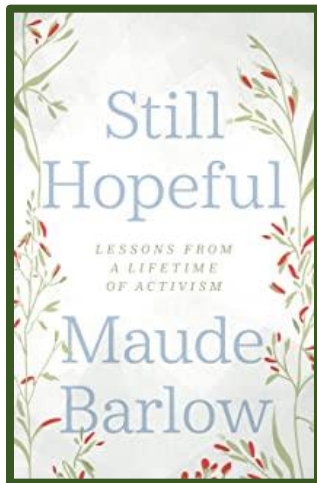


## Accounting for One's Hope

**"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15**

We might find ourselves at times somewhat hesitant to answer this soul- searching question posed in 1 Peter 3:15. Yet, being ready to give an accounting for one's hope has the power to ground us. Furthermore, I trust it has the potential to be life-giving for others.



Regarding hope, a newly published book by Maude Barlow caught my attention. As an avid bookworm, how could I resist adding it to my library? The writer is a well- known Canadian activist and author. She openly admits in the first sentence of the introduction that she has been contemplating the notion of hope for a long time. In her book, Still Hopeful: Lessons from a Lifetime of Activism, Barlow, without hesitation, eloquently delivers the reasoning behind her hopefulness amid global trauma.

The author relays her life experiences during her forty plus years as a social activist. She was active politically during the struggle for the expansion of women's rights, the battle against free trade and globalization, and the global fight for water justice. Her recollections transport the reader through the twisting, slow course of societal transformation while conveying the lessons she has learned in the process. Barlow provides the reader with 223 pages of wisdom and encouragement. Woven within her engaging storytelling are eight cameo appearances of other notable changemakers who answer the question, "Where do you find hope?" Together with Barlow, they contribute an antidote to the temptation to succumb to a growing sense of universal pessimism.

Follow the link, <https://youtu.be/VICBoM2BPrl> to catch Maude Barlow being interviewed about Still Hopeful: Lessons from a Lifetime of Activism in a ten minute segment on the TV show, The Social or the link <https://globalnews.ca/video/rd/91f2217e-9fc1-11ec-8248-0242ac110008/?jwsourc=c> to watch her 4-minute interview on the Morning Show.

