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OF
GRACE**

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Hope and Faith
the
Anchor of the Heart

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Hope and Faith the Anchor of the Heart.

Topics.

- The meaning of hope.
- The hope of the righteous.
- Salvation and hope.
- Faith and hope.
- Hope as an anchor of the soul.

THE MEANING OF HOPE

Hope is to expect and anticipate with confidence it is, trusting and relying on something (usually with pleasure). In the Christians case it is:

- Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ to save us.
- Trusting in Christ's righteousness, and not our own.
- Trusting in God's grace.
- Trusting that Christ will return to gather the redeemed to himself.

1

THE HOPE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

- **Proverbs 10:28:** The hope of the righteous brings joy, but the expectation of the wicked will perish. (Proverbs 10:28).

The righteous in this context embraces:

1. The redeemed who through faith in Christ have his righteousness imputed to them.
2. Those in Christ who endeavour to live a godly life (none of us perfectly achieve this perfectly, if we could Christ died for no reason), we all fall short of God's Holiness, and Christ's perfect character.

It is hope that brings joy, that is why lottery tickets are so successful, it gives people hope for a better life, even if the expectation is an illusion, and only for a moment. Multitudes worldwide are willing to pay to buy the hope a lottery ticket gives them, in contrast to this, Christian's hope is free, and produces inner joy that remains forever. Multitudes of people live with the expectation that they are going to win the lottery, but very few do. This verse tells us that the expectation and hope of those who deny God, and do wrong will not be realised.

Through the Gospel promises eternal life to those who believe in Christ, and most Christians live with the expectation they will be raised to eternal life, having an expectation does not guarantee they are, unless they live according to God's word. This is the idea the words, 'the expectation of the wicked will perish,' just because a person has an expectation, it does not always mean that they will receive the expectation.

SALVATION AND HOPE

When salvation to eternal life is spoken of as the hope of the faithful in Christ, it is not called hope because it might or might not happen, but because it is unseen and yet future.

- **Romans 8:24:** For in this hope, we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?

The hope itself is guaranteed because it is based on God's promise and He cannot lie.

- **Titus 1:2:** In hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began.

The Christian hopes:

- To be resurrected from the grave.
- To be raised to eternal life and everlasting glory.
- To be made perfectly free from sin.
- To be everlastingly happy.

It is faith that gives these things a mental reality in the mind, and it is under this influence of faith, that those in Christ allow these unseen, and yet future events to fill their mind, fully confident their hope is guaranteed to come to pass, for it is founded on the promise of God.

FAITH AND HOPE

The difference between faith and hope, is that by faith alone we are sure of eternal salvation, it is certain and guaranteed by faith, whereas by hope we look forward with confidence that we will be raised to eternal life. All Christian hope stands on faith, since it is faith that secures and guarantees the promise of God.

In this way faith and hope go together they are partners that complement each other since the same things that are the focus of our hope are the same things that our faith is trusting in. Faith secures, while hope looks forward to what is secured by faith. A person who is full of faith, is a person who has examined the evidence and is fully convinced that what they have examined proves itself to be true. The three pillars of faith are:

1. Conviction.
2. Assurance.
3. Confidence.

Without these three there is no faith. The following verses show that Christian hope will not leave anyone feeling ashamed (meaning foolish) that they have believed:

- **Romans 5:5:** Hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us (Rom. 5:5).
- **Romans 9:33:** As it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame (Rom. 9:33).

God has given us a brain and intelligence, reasoning, logic, and common sense to seek out what is right and what is not, there is no Scriptures in the Bible that say, "Seek God with your emotions and feelings," but there are Scriptures that say:

- **2 Timothy 2:15:** Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

HOPE AS AN ANCHOR OF THE HEART

- **Hebrews 6:18–19:** so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. ¹⁹ We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,

The anchor of a ship and its cable secured to the ship is cast into the ocean, and continues to sink until it secures itself on the ocean floor out of sight. Though the anchor cannot be seen, it keeps the ship steady on the surface of the ocean waters. Likewise, hope (the anchor), by faith (the cable), is cast on Christ, because he is the foundation of our salvation, and is at present, unseen, like the anchor secured on the ocean floor secures a ship, the cable of faith is our encouraging comfort and support, for it is founded on the promise of God. In the same way the cable connects the anchor to the ship, the cable of faith, connects hope to our heart, and mind.

A ships anchor without the cable is useless, likewise, the anchor of hope without the cable of faith is of little help; but, when faith is cast on Christ, the heart and mind are held secure in salvation and immovable. Like an anchor secures and protects a ship when the waves beat, and the wind blows; hope, the anchor of our heart and mind, safeguards and fortifies our salvation, during times of troubles, sorrows, and trials.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
