

The Focus of Our Hope

One of the most powerful principles that we have as Believers is in the fact that no matter what we may be going through or what we face, we have the right to expect to our situation to change for the better.

We may not know how, we may not know when, but if we would search the Word of God with open hearts and allow our faith to increase, we will eventually come to the place where our level of trust in God will also increase being a living reality and not just a statement of faith without the proper corresponding works.

When it comes to hope, the reality is that Hope is fueled by faith and faith is fueled by the Word of God. Reason being, increased faith is a result of our reading, studying, meditating and confessing the Word of God. As our faith increases, the thing in which we hope for [which are the promises that God revealed in His Word] becomes attainable in our hearts.

The promises of God become the hope we have as we go through this life. The more we read the Word, the more we become convinced of the fact that what God said is not just A promise, but MY promise and I'm going to live each day with the hope that this will manifest in my life.

Jeremiah 29:11 says, *"For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord, plans to do you good and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future..."* [Para]

The Message Bible translates this as, *"I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out – plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for."*

In approaching this topic, we must do so from the perspective that God knows all things and He really does have your best interests at heart. Knowing this, it becomes imperative that we view our lives from the perspective of eternity and not what we are able to control or gather in the natural while we go through this life.

Many times, true Biblical hope that's based on this principle and reality of eternity is trumped by the carnal desires of men. Because of this many Christians lose the hope they're supposed to have in God.

This happens when our hope is anchored in something other than what God said in His Word. We often get off track with the position of our hope by hoping in things that God did not necessarily say.

Hearing a message of faith, hope, blessing, etc, causes some people to misinterpret the intentions of the pastor and instead of focusing their faith on God, they begin to wish and hope for things that will feed their flesh. They hope for more money apart from tithing and applying the Biblical principles for their increase; they claim houses, cars, jobs and things that are outside the plan of God not having chapter and verse to substantiate their system of belief.

There are other Christians that even try to manipulate the will of another person, forcing them into marriage, getting them to do something for them that benefit their own selfish desires, or getting something from that person exerting control over them even quoting the Scriptures.

But for us, in demonstrating true Biblical hope, we will wait upon the timing of God and although God may use people in fulfilling the plan He has, we will not do so through manipulation, but through the healthy relationships that He allowed to be built.

Once we have the proper Biblical concept of hope operating in our lives, because it's based on the Word and our system of belief is increased, you find that nothing is impossible that is placed on your heart. You move your life to the place that God intended one day at a time; a week at a time; a month at a time; and a year at a time. Because it's real hope, patience becomes the foundation for building your life on the Word.

Therefore, when Biblical hope is in operation you will have these several elements evident in your life: Faith, patience, the promises of God and trust in God. As a matter of fact each of these principles will be operating interchangeably as you go through your walk.

You hope will be anchored to God's promise; there will be times when you will exercise faith in what you hope for; there will be times when you will be patient as you await the manifestation and in all these, your trust in God will continue to increase.

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Thank You