

LIVING HOPE

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Life without hope is boring and full of misery and pain. Life without hope is living for nothing, looking forward to nothing and expecting nothing tangible and definite. Hope gives energy and motivates for greater efforts and heights in life. Hope makes one to lift up his head in the midst of challenges and look ahead excitedly to experience the blessings desired. Hope makes a man's face to shine and beam with joy. Hope is an encourager and lifter of spirits. Hope makes one's heart sing even in rough times. Living hope can only be found in Christ Jesus and the word of God. You need a living hope to make it in life and enjoy peace all your life.

Hope is Expectation. Hope is confident desire.

1. Hope is a desire of some good, accompanied with an expectation of obtaining it, or a belief that it is obtainable. Hope differs from wish and desire in this, that it implies some expectation of obtaining the good desired, or the possibility of possessing it. Hope therefore always gives pleasure or joy; whereas wish and desire may produce or be accompanied with pain and anxiety.

2. Confidence in a future event; the highest degree of well founded expectation of good; as a hope founded on God's gracious promises in the Bible.

Ps 25:3-5

3 No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse. 4 Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; 5 guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

NIV

God never fails those who trust in Him.

To hope is to look forward to something or some experience. To hope is to anticipate. Hope is expectation, while faith is the substance (assurance) of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (*Heb 11:1*)

Hope is the forerunner of faith. Hope is the foundation of faith. It is upon hope that faith is built. Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. Without hope there is no faith. There has to be an expectation of a desire for faith to actualize. Faith is **now** while hope is **future**. Faith brings into "**now**" existence what hope is expecting to happen in a "**timeless**" future frame.

The hope of the believer in God through Christ is a living hope, because the God we hope in is a living and faithful God. No one whoever trusts in Him is ever put to shame or disappointed.

Ps 146:5-10

5 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, 6 the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them-- the LORD, who remains faithful forever.

7 He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free, 8 the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous. 9 The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. 10 The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD.

NIV

Isa 40:31

31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

NIV

Those who forget God have no hope – their hope shall be dashed.

Job 8:13

13 Such is the destiny of all who forget God; so perishes the hope of the godless.

NIV

Benefits of hope in God

1. Security

Job 11:18

18 You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety.

NIV

2. Motivation

Job 14:7-9

7 "At least there is hope for a tree: If it is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail. 8 Its roots may grow old in the ground and its stump die in the soil, 9 yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth shoots like a plant.

NIV

3. Makes one to be remembered

Ps 9:18

18 But the needy will not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the afflicted ever perish.

NIV

4. Hope gives inner strength

Ps 31:24

24 Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.

NIV

Isa 40:31

31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

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5. God's eyes are always on the hopeful

Ps 33:18-22

18 But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, 19 to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. 20 We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. 21 In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. 22 May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

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6. Greatly blessed by God

Ps 37:9

9 For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

NIV

7. Full redemption is yours

Ps 130:7-8

7 O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. 8 He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

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Rom 8:24-25

24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

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8. You will become a source of inspiration to others as your expectations come to pass.

Ps 119:74

74 May those who fear you rejoice when they see me, for I have put my hope in your word.

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9. Makes one bold

2 Cor 3:12

12 Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.

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10. God will favour you

Ps 147:11

11 the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

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Lam 3:25

25 The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him;

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11. You will never be disappointed no matter the challenge before you.

Prov 23:18

18 There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

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Eccl 9:4

4 Anyone who is among the living has hope -even a live dog is better off than a dead lion!

NIV

2 Cor 1:10

10 He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us,

NIV

Those who hope in God walk in uprightness and integrity.

Ps 25:21

21 May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you.

NIV

Do not allow yourself to be depressed. Cheer up and keep hope alive.

Ps 43:5

5 Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

NIV

Never stop hoping in God.

Ps 71:5

5 For you have been my hope, O Sovereign LORD, my confidence since my youth.

NIV

Ps 131:3

3 O Israel, put your hope in the LORD both now and forevermore.

NIV

Hope does not fail – God will definitely respond to your hope and faith

Rom 5:5

5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

NIV

Hope walks in patience

Rom 8:24-25

24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

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