

The God of All Hope!

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Romans 15:13 says, “Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.” Psalm 31:24 adds this: “Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.” Hope is a feeling of expectation and desire for certain things to occur in our lives. A Biblical and Christian hope refers to the confident expectation that God will intercede on our behalf, that He will help and bless our lives through meeting our daily spiritual needs. Biblical hope is centered upon God’s intercession for His children as we experience His spiritual resources, provision, and direction in life.

Hope does not just relate to the future but should be experienced in our daily lives through God’s continual supply of peace, joy, and mercies. This kind of hope enables us to maintain our spiritual equilibrium in life and allows us to “lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees” (Heb. 12:12). In Psalm 42:5, the psalmist is talking to himself and asks: “Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted (experiencing inward discouragement and depression) in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance” (the help of God’s face shining upon me!).

Hope springs eternal! In other words, we can continue to possess hope in God’s strength, care, love, and help no matter what disappointments and struggles we face. Hope (the expectation of God’s intercession and blessing in our lives) brings refreshment into our souls and reinvigorates our spiritual lives as we face trials and difficult times. This kind of hope is experienced as we read the promises of God’s Word and apply them to us and therefore experience the Lord’s continual spiritual provisions.

Psalm 33:22 says, “Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.” Psalm 33:18 gives a similar promise: “Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him (reverence and respect Him), upon them that hope in his mercy.” God’s mercies refer to His tender touch and loving care and compassion that He showers upon our lives. This Bible promise means that we will experience hope in our hearts when we enjoy the outpouring of God’s loving-kindness and mercy directed toward

us, those mercies which are “new every morning” (Lamentations 3:22-23). As we experience the Lord’s tender-loving mercies, the touch of His compassion and kindness in a deeper and more intimate way in our lives, as we experience the spiritual provisions of the God of all hope, the more help and hope we will have to go on in life.

“Whispering hope
Oh, how welcome Thy voice,
Making my heart
In its sorrow rejoice!”