

THE HOPE CONTAINED WITHIN THE PAGES OF THE CHRISTIAN BIBLE.

Copyright 2016 - <http://lookingforthelosttruthsofjesus.org>

NOTE: - All Bible texts are taken from the King James Version; and the compiler has supplied all emphasis throughout this Study Document.

- Our hope is to be in the God of the Bible. Christ is to be our hope.
Psalms 146:5 & 6: - "Happy [is he] that [hath] the God of Jacob for his help, **whose hope [is] in the LORD his God:** Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein [is]: which keepeth truth for ever."

Jeremiah 17:7: - "Blessed [is] the man that trusteth in the LORD, **and whose hope the LORD is.**"

1 Timothy 1:1: - "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, **and Lord Jesus Christ, [which is] our hope.**"

- The histories of the lives and struggles of the righteous people of old contained within the pages of the Scriptures are to give us patience and comfort and hope.

Romans 15:4: - "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, **that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**"

- A righteous person has hope at the time of their death.

Proverbs 14:32: - "The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: **but the righteous hath hope in his death.**"

The death of any of the Lord's saints is precious in his sight.

Psalms 116:15: - "Precious in the sight of the LORD [is] the death of his saints."

It is this hope at the time of the death of the righteous that the prophet Balaam wanted to possess for himself when the time would come for him to die.

Numbers 23:10: - "Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth [part] of Israel? **Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!**"

The apostle John has defined a righteous person as someone who practices righteousness, and he has also defined a saint as a person who keeps God's Commandments and the faith of Jesus.

1 John 3:7: - "Little children, let no man deceive you: **he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.**"

Revelation 14:12: - "Here is the patience of **the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.**"

NOTE: - The righteous have hope at the time of their death because of **HOW** they have lived their lives.

- Without Christ a godless person has no hope, and at the time of their death their loved ones sorrow as those who have no hope.

Ephesians 2:12: - “That at that time **ye were without Christ**, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, **having no hope, and without God in the world.**”

1 Thessalonians 4:13: - “But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, **that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.**”

- Our hope of inheriting glory is bound up with having Christ dwelling in our hearts by faith.
Colossians 1:27: - “To whom God would make known what [is] the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**”

Ephesians 3:17: - “**That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith**; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love.”

If Christ is abiding in us and we in him, we shall have the life of Jesus manifested within our mortal flesh, and we shall walk as Jesus walked.

2 Corinthians 4:10 & 11: - “Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, **that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.** For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, **that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.**”

1 John 2:6: - “He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”

Because we are abiding in Jesus, we can then meet him in peace at his 2nd Coming.

1 John 2:28: - “And now, little children, **abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.**”

- The hope for the righteous is laid up for them in heaven.
Colossians 1:5: - “**For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven**, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel.”

Jesus promised his disciples that their reward would be great in heaven.

Matthew 5:12: - “Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: **for great [is] your reward in heaven**: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.”

The apostle Peter informs us that the saints have an incorruptible and never fading inheritance that is reserved in heaven for them.

1 Peter 1:3 - 5: - “Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you**, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

The godly patriarchs looked for a heavenly city as their final promised inheritance, a city that has been built by God himself.

Hebrews 11:16: - “But now they desire a better [country], that is, **an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.**”

This city is the heavenly Jerusalem above, which is the city of the Living God.

Galatians 4:26: - "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all."

Hebrews 12:22 & 23: - "**But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem**, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect."

Peter said this inheritance is undefiled, because nothing that defiles is allowed by the Lord to enter into it.

Revelation 21:27: - "**And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither [whatsoever] worketh abomination, or [maketh] a lie**: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

It is to this heavenly city Jesus promised that he would go when he ascended into heaven and he would prepare mansions for his disciples so that he would come again and take them back to this heavenly city.

John 14:2 & 3: - "In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also.**"

This promised and long hoped for heavenly inheritance to be with Christ is the ultimate hope of the Christian. It is the ultimate hope of the gospel that Paul preached to the entire world.

Colossians 1:23: - "If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and [be] not moved away from **the hope of the gospel**, which ye have heard, [and] which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister."

- We have been born again by God to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
1 Peter 1:3: - "Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto **a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**"

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is essential for us to have any hope at all as a Christian. Without it we would still be in our sins and our faith in Christ would be in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:14 - 17: - "**And if Christ be not risen, then [is] our preaching vain, and your faith [is] also vain.** Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: **And if Christ be not raised, your faith [is] vain; ye are yet in your sins.**"

Christ was raised from the dead for our justification.

Romans 4:24 & 25: - "But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up **Jesus our Lord** from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, **and was raised again for our justification.**"

The apostle Paul himself was persecuted by the unbelieving Jews because of the hope of Christ's promised resurrection from the dead.

Acts 23:6: - "But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men [and] brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: **of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.**"

Acts 26:6 - 8: - "And now I stand and **am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers**: Unto which [promise] our twelve tribes, instantly serving [God] day and night, hope to come. **For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews. Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?**"

The hope that Christ's resurrection from the dead gives to the believer is that because Jesus has tasted death and conquered the grave, the believer can live because Jesus lives.

John 14:19: - "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: **because I live, ye shall live also.**"

1 Corinthians 15:20 - 23: - "**But now is Christ risen from the dead, [and] become the firstfruits of them that slept.** For since by man [came] death, by man [came] also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, **even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.**"

Revelation 1:17 & 18: - "And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; **I am the first and the last: I [am] he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.**"

NOTE: - If Christ has the keys of "hell"¹ or of the grave and of death, he can use that key and free his people from their prison house of the grave.

THE HOPE OF SALVATION AND ETERNAL LIFE: -

- The Bible writers have repeatedly affirmed that we can have the present hope of eternal life and salvation. Psalms 119:166: - "LORD, **I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments.**"

1 Thessalonians 5:8: - "But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; **and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.**"

Titus 1:2: - "**In hope of eternal life**, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began."

Titus 3:6 & 7: - "Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, **we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**"

It is interesting to note from a careful reading of the above passage, that when we have experienced justification by the grace of our Saviour Jesus Christ, we are made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Paul also wrote to the Romans that when we have experienced justification by faith we could rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:1 & 2: - "**Therefore being justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, **and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.**"

This hope of inheriting God's salvation is something that we are exhorted to wait for, as the prophet Jeremiah himself informed us, that it is a good thing for a person to hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

Lamentations 3:26: - "[It is] good that [a man] should **both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.**"

The patriarch Jacob himself waited for the salvation of the Lord.

¹ The Greek word that is translated as "hell" in this passage is the word "hades" – See Strong's Concordance; Greek No. 86. It is synonymous with "the grave" in the Scriptures.

Genesis 49:18: - "I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD."

We therefore wait by faith for the **hope** of righteousness.

Galatians 5:5: - "For we through the Spirit **wait for the hope of righteousness** by faith."

Paul also teaches us that while we now have the firstfruits of the Holy Spirit, we are waiting for the redemption of our bodies, and that we are saved by hope waiting with patience to possess the reality.

Romans 8:23 - 25: - "And not only [they], but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting for the adoption, [to wit], the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope:** but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? **But if we hope for that we see not, [then] do we with patience wait for [it].**"

This is why Paul exhorts us to walk by faith and not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5:7: - "(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)"

Faith is founded upon hope, the evidence of things that are not yet seen.

Hebrews 11:1: - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

THE REALIZATION OF THIS HOPE IS AT THE 2ND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST: -

- The 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ in glory is called "that blessed hope".

Titus 2:13: - "Looking for **that blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

This is because that when Christ who is our life shall appear again, we shall then appear with him in glory, and he shall reward us with a crown of righteousness and glory at that time.

Colossians 3:4: - "When Christ, [who is] our life, shall appear, **then shall ye also appear with him in glory.**"

2 Timothy 4:8: - "Henceforth there is laid up for me **a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.**"

1 Peter 5:4: - "And **when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory** that fadeth not away."

It is to this time of the "blessed hope" of the 2nd Coming of Christ when the last trumpet sounds and the resurrection of the just takes place, that the saying of the prophet Isaiah "*Death is swallowed up in victory*" shall be fulfilled. At this time the righteous shall then rejoice in the salvation that the Lord will be bringing them at that time, which they have been waiting for.

1 Corinthians 15:51 - 55: - "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: **for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal [must] put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, **then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.** O death, where [is] thy sting? O grave, where [is] thy victory?"

Isaiah 25:8 & 9: - **“He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken [it]. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this [is] our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this [is] the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”**

When Christ shall appear the second time he shall be bringing salvation with him for those who are looking for his return.

Hebrews 9:28: - **“So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”**

When Christ shall appear again the righteous shall be like him in character. Every believer who has this hope within them shall purify his or herself, as Christ is pure.

1 John 3:2 & 3: - **“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”**

OUR FAITH AND HOPE IS TO BE IN GOD: -

1 Peter 1:18 - 21: - **“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, [as] silver and gold, from your vain conversation [received] by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.”**

WE MUST HOLD OUR HOPE AND CONFIDENCE FIRM UNTO THE END: -

Hebrews 3:6: - **“But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.”**