

HOPE

PS. 33:18

“¹⁸ But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love” “¹⁸ He aquí el ojo de Jehová sobre los que le temen, Sobre los que esperan en su misericordia”

Intro: What is better to say: “I wish for this” or “I hope for this?” Hope means more than a vague wish that something will happen. *It is a sure and confident expectation in God’s future faithfulness and presence.* The horizon of Christian hope extends beyond death into an eternity prepared by God himself, the reality of which is guaranteed by Jesus Christ.

There are no words in the language more dreadful than these two: “No hope.”

I. WHAT COMES BEFORE: FAITH OR HOPE?

1. *It seems that hope precedes faith*

1) Ps. 37:3 “Trust in the Lord, and do good” “³ Confía en Jehová, y haz el bien”

2. *Hope is the entrance to faith and the beginning of salvation*

3. *Further, that which is included in a definition should precede the thing defined. Hope is included in the definition of faith*

1) Heb. 11:1 “¹ Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” “¹ Es, pues, la fe la certeza de lo que se espera, la convicción de lo que no se ve”

II. WHO HAVE NO HOPE? There are three classes who have no hope:

1. *The person who denies or doubts the existence of a personal God has no hope.*

1) He may cherish fond wishes about the future but wishes are not hope. Hope is a well-founded expectation.

2. *The man who denies the truth of the Bible has no hope.*

1) He has no expectation for the future that has a solid and certain foundation underneath the Bible

3. *The man who believes in the Bible but does not accept and confess the Christ it presents as his own personal Savior and Master has no hope.*

1) The Bible holds out absolutely no hope to any except those who accept the Savior

(1) John 3:36 “³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him.” “³⁶ El que cree en el Hijo tiene vida eterna; pero el que rehúsa creer en el Hijo no verá la vida, sino que la ira de Dios está sobre él”

III. IN WHAT SENSE HAVE THESE THREE CLASSES NO HOPE?

1. *They have no hope, no well-founded and sure expectation of blessedness for the life that now is.*

1) In the first place they have no guarantee of continued prosperity.

2) They have no guarantee of continued capacity to enjoy prosperity even if it continues.

3) They have no guarantee of continued life.

2. *But infinitely worse than this is the fact that they have no hope for the life that is to come.*

1) The man out of Christ has no hope of blessedness after death.

2) No hope of glad reunion with friends who have gone or may go.

3) No hope of pardon.

4) No hope of escape from the wrath of God against sin and unbelief

(1) Rom. 6:23. “²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” “²³ Porque la paga del pecado es muerte, mas la dádiva de Dios es vida eterna en Cristo Jesús Señor nuestro”

IV. THE BELIEVER IN CHRIST HAS HOPE

1. *He has hope for the life that now is*

- 1) Rom. 8:28 “²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” “²⁸ Y sabemos que a los que aman a Dios, todas las cosas les ayudan a bien, esto es, a los que conforme a su propósito son llamados”

2. *He has hope in not worrying about anything*

- 1) Phil. 4:6 “⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” “⁶ Por nada estéis afanosos, sino sean conocidas vuestras peticiones delante de Dios en toda oración y ruego, con acción de gracias”

3. *He has peace in midst of all things*

- 1) Phil. 4:7 “⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” “⁷ Y la paz de Dios, que sobrepasa todo entendimiento, guardará vuestros corazones y vuestros pensamientos en Cristo Jesús”

4. *He trust that God will supply all their needs*

- 1) Phil. 4:19 “¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus” “⁷ Y la paz de Dios, que sobrepasa todo entendimiento, guardará vuestros corazones y vuestros pensamientos en Cristo Jesús. ¹⁹ Mi Dios, pues, suplirá todo lo que os falta conforme a sus riquezas en gloria en Cristo Jesús”

5. *This hope is by grace*

- 1) Rom. 8:32 “³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?” “³² El que no escatimó ni a su propio Hijo, sino que lo entregó por todos nosotros, ¿cómo no habrá de darnos generosamente, junto con él, todas las cosas?”

6. *Hope for the life to come*

- 1) Tit. 1:2 “² a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time” “² en la esperanza de la vida eterna, la cual Dios, que no miente, prometió desde antes del principio de los siglos”

CONCLUSION: *It is a sure and confident expectation in God’s future faithfulness and presence! Two words: Faithfulness and presence!*