

HOPE

KINDS OF HOPE:

1. Natural expectation: Acts 27:20
Looking at this storm, the effects and the destruction it was bringing, the natural inclination was there was no hope of rescue. When we look at things in the natural with our limitations in mind, hope can quickly disappear when times like this come upon us.
2. Sinful expectation: Acts 24:26
Felix was hoping Paul would offer him a bribe. That was his purpose in calling him back repeatedly. Paul would not stoop to this.
3. Impossible: Romans 4:18
Abraham's faith and believing even when everything was hopeless (as far as being the father of many nations). He believed in that which was promised to excite his hope.
4. Spiritual assurance: 2 Corinthians 1:7
Paul was assuring the Corinthians that he had a firm and unshaken hope they would be saved. He believed they would be enabled to bear the trials.

HOPE DESCRIBES AS:

1. Living: 1 Peter 1:3
Our confidence is in the living hope of eternal life. This is what salvation brings to each of us. The hope of new birth is not only based on our future inheritance and present blessings, but also on God's written word.
2. Blessed: Titus 2:13
Eternal life is the blessed hope we all wait for. It is our ultimate goal (Promised Land).
3. Good: 2 Thessalonians 2:16
Anything the Lord gives us is good. The eternal encouragement and comfort He gives will endure forever. It lives (that living hope) lives through us in sickness, losses, trials, affliction. It is with us in death and is unchanging beyond the grave.
4. Better: Hebrews 7:19
Through Christ came a better hope than what the Law gave. The law was not perfect but what Christ brought was perfect. "That bringing in of a better hope" is a bringing in upon the ground formerly occupied by the commandment.
5. Sure and steadfast: Hebrews 6:19
This anchor that grabs hold will not slip or lose its grip. This hope accomplishes for our soul what an anchor does for a ship.

6. One of the great virtues: 1 Corinthians 13:13

One of the virtues that remain, continues, abides and is applied to a person remaining in a place, not changing their place. Here it is used to denote permanency, when the other things Paul talks about do pass away.

HOPE IS PRODUCTIVE OF:

1. Purity: 1 John 3:3

We have the hope of seeing Christ and being like Him. To be like Him requires the process of sanctifying and becoming pure: purifying of ourselves.

2. Patience: Romans 8:25

Patience is a virtue to be developed in our lives. Where there is a strong desire for something in our lives, and a corresponding expectation of obtaining it – which constitutes true hope. Then we can wait with patience.

3. Endurance: Romans 5:4, 5

A process of endurance producing proven character and that produces hope. Hope is looking toward the final outcome and reward of our endurance.

4. Joy: Romans 12:12

We should be cheerful in expectation.

5. Assurance: Hebrews 6:18, 19

God's nature and His promises are unchangeable. Therefore, by knowing this, our hope in these can be an anchor which can hold us steady and firm when trials come. See also Colossians 1:23 (stability).

FOUNDATIONS OF HOPE:

1. God's Word: Psalm 119:42-81 and Romans 15:4

2. God's promises: Acts 26:6, 7 and Titus 1:2

THE OBJECTS OF HOPE:

1. God: Psalm 39:7

2. Christ: 1 Corinthians 15:19

3. Salvation: Romans 5:1-5

4. Resurrection: Acts 23:6

5. Eternal life: Titus 1:2

6. Glory: Romans 5:2

7. Christ's return: Romans 8:22-25

Did you notice that the list does not contain any Scriptures relating to placing hope in man or the things of this world?