

Drawing Near to God, Secret of Expectant Hope – Wait for the Lord

Noun

noun: **hope**; plural noun: **hopes** (EG HOPE TRUSTS)

a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

"he looked through her belongings in the hope of coming across some information"

synonyms: aspiration, desire, wish, expectation, ambition, aim, goal, plan, design; "I had high hopes"

a person or thing that may help or save someone.

"their only hope is surgery"

grounds for believing that something good may happen.

(OR) "he does see some hope for the future"

synonyms: hopefulness, optimism, expectation, expectancy; More confidence, faith, trust, belief, conviction, assurance; promise, possibility
"a life filled with hope"

antonyms: pessimism

Verb

want something to happen or be the case.

"he's **hoping for** an offer of compensation" VERB – ACTION - HOPING

synonyms: expect, anticipate, look for, be hopeful of, pin one's hopes on, want; wish for, long for, dream of

Hope is an optimistic attitude of mind that is based on an expectation of positive outcomes related to events and circumstances in one's life or the world at large. [Wikipedia](#)

Hope is very powerful. In fact someone asked an ex addict: What's your drug of choice? Hope, they said, the most addicting one of all! Eg Jeremiah 29:11 Heb 11 Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen!

Read Ps 62 vs 1-8 NLT

"I wait quietly before God, for my victory comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will never be shaken. So many enemies against one man—all of them trying to kill me. To them I'm just a broken-down wall or a tottering fence. They plan to topple me from my high position. They delight in telling lies about me. They praise me to my face but curse me in their hearts. Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken. My victory and honor come from God alone. O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge."

Key Verse - vs 5 *"My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him."* NKJV

5 Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him. NLT

There is a difference between "waiting on God" and "waiting for God". They are different but the same. We often say when we are in a posture of prayer that we are "Waiting on God" either to to speak to me or, "Being still and knowing He is God". Then there is waiting for God to act on my behalf which involves me being deliberate about taking my hands off and trusting Him! Both are with an expectancy of Hope and not a passive

waiting. Like an expectant mother who is waiting for her baby she can't see but begins to prepare for his/her arrival.

- Hopelessness of Addiction
 - Under the bridge 2nd Indiana
 - Contrast with those with tear drops
- Is having nowhere to go and nowhere to turn. You begin to feel useless and you also feel that you have disappointed everyone and that they all are ashamed of you. You also feel that you have no future and that your life is over. You may even want to go somewhere and die.
- For many years I was without hope and it is the worst state I have ever been in. Hopelessness to me was being in so much despair of living that I was willing to do anything to escape the reality of what my life truly was.
- Hopelessness is a sinking feeling in your body. You hurt everywhere with an absence of direction, constant confusion. You can't think or focus. The only thing that feels normal is crying.

Secret of Expectant Hope - Wait for God! Vs 2 & 5

David speaks of hope in the midst of hopelessness, – uses the metaphor “God is his Rock” perhaps his mind went back to the caverns and rocks where he hid out from King Saul who was chasing him to kill him running from his son Absalom. We know the enemy is out to kill steal and destroy. That's what sin does to us.

I love the idea that David is communicating here. Vs 5 “My soul waits for God, my expectancy is from him. “Wait for God”

One of the hardest things to do “wait on the Lord” we want to do it ourselves, instead of consulting the Lord. Eg of Gibeonites _ Joshua “did not consult the Lord” Joshua 9:14 (He didn't Wait For God)

David was a accomplished “waiter” on/for the Lord! This is a virtue we all need to develop, bind ourselves to and continue in! Become PASSIONATE for!

Wait for the Lord! If you know someone who can do something that you can't do, what do you do?... you wait till you can get their help! If you need a medical procedure, you go to the best Doctor you know. If you need to have something repaired in your home, you call the best Contractor you know.

The alternative is to have an “expectation from other people, places or things” other than God. We expect that my family, my friends, my church, the government OWES ME. “We choose God over and against other things” Dr Gerald May, Addiction & Grace. (pg 92-94) When we “Choose God”, we must learn what it means to “hope” or “wait” on the Lord and become skillful at it, let it become an automatic response.

Our tendency is to find expectation in other “confidences” Prov 10:22

Truth: I am powerless, but my hope is in the “Power of Christ” following him “waiting on Him” expecting **deliverance** from Him! (I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!)

Hope waits patiently in trust of God. He is willing and able to take care of the situation. He is a great God!

One of our Ladies' Story – she has a son and she received a phone call from the boy's father saying “I am taking full custody of our son”. She wanted to fight, but God spoke to her and said “Let him go”. She did and she later received joint custody of her son!

- We can have that kind of faith because of the faithful God he is. What good are the oil fields of Texas or the diamond mines of Russia, Canada or South Africa to me if I have no inheritance in them?

I have an inheritance with the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords! When I learn to tap in and receive that inheritance through faith, my expectation shifts from the things of this world to the Creator Himself.

How do I tap into that inheritance? Waiting on the Lord! Crying out to Him because he says “My God shall supply all my needs according to His great riches in Glory by Christ Jesus. Take it to Jesus!

Here’s where rubber hits the road.... **Vs 3,4**

Modern Day Scenarios (David went through some tough opposition - Vs 3 and 4.)

- Go to get a job and somehow they find out something by doing a background check. Sorry.
- Dating, fall in love and father of your friend says no way
- You’re a step father and afraid step daughter will ask her biological father who hasn’t been in her life at all to walk her down the aisle when she gets married.
- You’re in a great Church, you give your testimony, most people love it but the next Sunday, you go to sit down, and right next to you someone obviously gets up and moves to the other side of the Church
- You’ve just become a believer and someone in your family or a friend says, I liked you better before you got this God stuff
- Hundreds of different scenarios
- Verbally you’ve been cut to the core, emotionally bleeding all over the place

What don’t you do?

- Don’t do what you used to do. Run, hide, fight retaliate or medicate... NO
- Prepare because life and unjust and harsh
- If you retaliate, they say “see, he/she hasn’t changed, still the same old person”, they just set you up and took you down.

We all know that way very well. So, What do we do?

- You walk away and
 - Wait on the Lord or maybe “CRY OUT TO THE LORD” make sure you’re right and then you can deal the situation clearly, righteously (sometimes it’s done in the immediate)

“Take it to Jesus” – needs to become an automatic response “Take it to Jesus” “Wait for God”

- Don’t try to defend yourself, let the Lord be your defender, your justifier, your vindicator
 - Stand still and see the salvation of your GOD!
- People let us down, don’t place your “EXPECTATION” in people to act or be a certain way because we will be disappointed. Let your hope and expectation be to God who will never let you down. He will never leave you or forsake you. He’s got your back!
- Vs 3&4 Defense or refuge from evil – He’s our protection !

Something I’ve learned:

Accept brutal facts of current reality and then have hope that everything will be ok in the end. That’s hope and faith!
Rom 8:28

Why? God’s our defense, our protector, our provider and our guide!

Guilt & Shame – motivator to “hopelessness” Hope Killers! **Vs 5-7** David outlines his tribulations then reminds himself again to “**wait on the Lord**”

Classic definition and difference between guilt and shame, “Guilt is feeling bad about what you *do*. Shame is feeling bad about who you *are*”

Shame: Psychologist Darlene Lancer characterizes

Guilt is conviction I feel over bad behavior, but shame is an intense global feeling of inadequacy, inferiority, or self-loathing. You want to hide or disappear. In front of others, you feel exposed and humiliated, as if they can see your flaws. The worst part of it is a profound sense of separation — from yourself and from others. It's disintegrating, meaning that you lose touch with all the other parts of yourself, and you also feel disconnected from everyone else. Shame induces unconscious beliefs, such as:

- I'm a failure.
- I'm not important.
- I'm unlovable.
- I don't deserve to be happy.
- I'm a bad person.
- I'm a phony.
- I'm defective.
 - Or let me add "Worthless" That's where a lack of Hope leads us!

But it's not correct to start with or try to get back to "I'm a good person" There is none righteous, no not one!

Truth: We may be "unworthy", but we are never "worthless" The enemy wants us to feel worthless!

- How did David respond to Guilt and Shame after committing adultery with Bathsheba and then murdering her husband? He confessed and asked God to forgive him. Ps 51
- Truth: Jack Miller said "Cheer up! You're a worse sinner than you ever dared imagine, and you're more loved than you ever dared hope!"

How Can we embrace HOPE? 2 Things.

Know that:

1. **God Loves Me** - Hope does not disappoint because the Love of God has been poured out in our hearts!
 - Love of God is a boundary or protection for us. Greek word Corinthians 13:7 "Love Bears all things" *stéggō* – properly, to place under *roof*, to *cover-over* (with a roof); (figuratively) to *endure* because *shielded*, i.e. bearing up (forbearing) because under *the Lord's protection (covering)*.

God proved His Love by sending Jesus to take our place and He died so we could live

Accept God's love through forgiveness of Jesus. His precious Blood. There is power in the blood of Jesus!

2. **God is Always Faithful** – He will never let you down! HE will never leave you or forsake you! You can trust him

Even when you fail, there is Hope Beyond Failure "The steps of a good man..."

The enemy wants to bring discouragement to us, especially after failure. One of the most powerful tools he uses against us but there is:

1. Hope for Salvation – 1 Peter 1:3-6 "Living Hope" ESV or "Great Expectation" NLT
2. Hope for Deliverance
3. Hope for Wholeness
 - a. Healing
 - b. Flourishing (Pastor Randy) Better word than "Prospering"
4. Hope for family restoration – Christi story
5. Hope for the Fulfilled Dreams
 - a. Power of imagination

We must move from Hope to Faith Hebrews 11:1

Truth about HOPE: I can face anything in life as long as I know God is with me! Is 43:1-3

Now abides "Faith, Hope and Love" and the greatest of these is LOVE.

Summary and Closing:

Do you want to walk in confidence and God's blessing over your life? Wait for God Hope for God – UNSHAKABLE CONFIDENCE vs 6

Vs 1-7 David talks about his own experience of Drawing Near to God in the midst of Incredible Odds. Vs 8 he turns to encourage everyone else.

Invitation: Exercise for all to Draw Near to God

Ps 109:31 For he stands at the right hand of the needy, to save him from those who condemn his soul to death. ESV

Ps 110:1 The Lord says to my Lord "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool." ESV