

Continue to Hope in the Lord

Psalm 30/31:24-Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD. (KJV)

The Holy Scriptures clearly encourage believers to continually hope in the Lord. The Psalms indicate the Lord will strengthen believers placing their hope in Him. Strength from the Lord is necessary for hope to continue when life is very difficult. Believers living faithful to the Lord testify to the validity of remaining hopeful. The lives of the saints and martyrs reflect joy and hope in adverse circumstances.

Psalm 32/33:18-Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; (KJV)

The Lord is aware when suffering believers place their hope in Him for mercy. Believers firm in hope direct their' minds, hearts and souls to the merciful God. God is ever-present, within prayerful reach and merciful to hopeful believers. Believers are not always understanding of God's presence, care and mercy. The passing of time may be necessary for God's goodness to be revealed,

Psalm 32/33:22-Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee (KJV)

The Psalm expresses an interrelationship between mercy and hope in the Lord. The Lord God knows the condition of the believer's heart, mind and soul. God knows the believer's ultimate values, ethics and degree of faith and hope. The depths and recesses of the believer's heart, mind and soul are known to God. God knows if the believer is holding on to goals or thoughts that are impediments.

Psalm 37/38:15-For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God. (KJV)

The hopeful believer resolutely reaches out to the Lord in prayerful anticipation. Prayerful appeals to the Lord God seek reassurance the believer is being heard. God's reassurance is necessary for the hopeful believer when life is most difficult. The believer appeals to the certainty of the Lord when reaching out in firm hope. Confidence in the Lord enables the believer to remain hopeful and faithful.

Psalm 38/39:7-And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee. (KJV)

The Lord ultimately determines the outcome of the hopeful believer's prayers. Fervent believers are comfortable in trusting the Lord's actions in their behalf. Serious believers will see the Lord at work even in life's most difficult moments. Hopeful believers examine their circumstances for the Lord's presence and love. God's love is revealed to the hopeful believer even in the most difficult times.

Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord. St. Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus, Venerable Luke of Hellas. February 7/20, 2024. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania.
Father Rodney Torbic