

## Hope Energizes Believers

**Proverbs 10:28-The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: but the expectation of the wicked shall perish.** (KJV)

The Proverbs in Scripture are authoritative in understanding the concept of hope. Believers are energized when hope is present in the heart, mind and soul. Perceiving and maintaining hope affects the total being of the human person. Personal demeanor and relationships are positively affected when hope exists. Joy arises when hope is experienced in the believer's heart, mind and soul.

**Proverbs 11:7-When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perisheth.** (KJV)

Believers heeding the word of the Lord God have reason to hope beyond death. Jesus Christ destroyed the barrier of death and established hope in eternal life. The Gospel has many references to the hope of eternal life to be fully embraced. The wicked face a future that is bleak unless sincere repentance takes place. Christ's Final Judgment is clearly described in St. Matthew's Gospel. (Mt.25:31-46)

**Proverbs 13:12-Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.** (KJV)

Believers are expected to act whole-heartedly to please the Lord when hope exists. Adhering to the teachings of the Lord when hope exists leads to God's Kingdom. Adherence firmly to the teachings of the Lord in hope multiplies the fruits of life. God is the constant source of hope for believers until earthly life's last moments. Hope exists beyond the boundaries of death when believers live in Jesus Christ.

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

Jesus Christ rising from the tomb established the basis for enduring hope in life. No darkness is strong enough to prevail over the Light of the Risen Jesus Christ. Christ's Light penetrates the soul's darkness and gives believers reason to hope. Serious introspection leads to discovery of the Light of Christ in the human soul. Repentance is the cure when the soul is tarnished by sin and hope is abandoned,

**Proverbs 19:18-Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.** (KJV)

Parents have a responsibility to discipline their sons and daughters until adulthood. Being a parent is a great responsibility requiring a vision of hope for the children. Children will learn to embrace hope in the Lord from their mothers and fathers. Parents are expected to be healthy Christian examples for their sons and daughters. Love of the Lord God in the home strengthens hope in the children of the family.

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Holy Great -Martyr Euphemia the All Praised; Blessed Olga, Princess of Russia.

New Hiero-martyrs Momcilo Grgurevic and Budimir Sokolovic

July 11/24, 2024. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic