

hope – the anchor of the soul

ross van niekerk



defining hope

webster's bible dictionary



- a desire of some good, with the expectation of obtaining it, or a belief that its obtainable.
- confidence in a future event; the highest degree of an expectation of good.
- an opinion or belief not amounting to certainty, but grounded on substantial evidence.

biblical use of the term a sure expectation of...



1. deliverance from sin or circumstance [Psa 39:7; 71:5]
2. receiving a promise [Rom 4:16-21, Heb 6:17-20]
3. Christ's return [Tit 2:13]
4. resurrection [1Cor 15:12-20]
5. glorification [Col 1:21; 1Joh 3:2-3]
6. receiving inheritance [Eph 1:18]

hebrews 6:11-12, 19-20

And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises...

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

defining hope

hope stirs faith on amidst difficulty



romans 12:10-12

Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer...

[again in Romans 5:1-2]

defining hope

hope stirs faith on amidst difficulty



2 timothy 4:4-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

applying hope

to see, that you may believe



hebrews 11:1,13

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen...

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

romans 4:17-21

(Abraham) believed God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."

He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

applying hope

to see, that you may believe



ephesians 1:16-19

[we pray that God] may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints...

hope pictures

picture on wall / entry in diary



- it serves as reminder of promise.

ephesians 3:20

[God] who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us...

hope pictures

corporate faith



genesis 11:6

They are one people and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning, and nothing they have imagined they can do will be impossible for them.

hope pictures

God-sized dreams



romans 15:13

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

what do you trust God for?