

CL Talks I Hope Sees Through the Darkness
Pastor Al Brice I Episode 61

1 Peter 3:12 (AMP): 12 For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous (those who are upright and in right standing with God), and His ears are attentive to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who practice evil [to oppose them, to frustrate, and defeat them].

2 Chronicles 14:9-12 NKJV: This a Biblical account of an event that looked beyond hopeless to the natural eye but hope in God turned what looked like a sure defeat into a resounding victory. The report of this invasion, to the king, became a dark moment into the lives of the people of Judah, the smallest tribe in Israel.

Remember, when darkness arrives, hope is your anchor!! **(Hebrews 6:17-19 NKJV)**

Hope is futuristic, the supernatural ability given to us by God, to look through the darkness. Hope does not continue to stare at or be occupied by the darkness or the negativity of the circumstances, no matter how big or small.

We are to see through the darkness of a report or circumstance!!

We are not to be overwhelmed by what we see, hear, or feel but to be overwhelmed by the power, ability, and faithfulness of God!! We look past and through the problem realizing that what I see now is only temporal and subject to change.

(2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NKJV)

I look to my Heavenly Father, find His promise, in the Bible, and I see the end from the beginning, God's promise is His desire and goal for me, it brings faith and hope to me, it becomes my light in this dark moment.

Hope is seeing and agreeing with God's promises in your dilemma, seeing the light in darkness!! Hope is that unshakable assurance and firm conviction that God is for me and not against me and He will bring me out of this situation into a greater place and position than I find myself in right now!! It may not see an instant or overnight deliverance but I will come out of it, I will overcome in the name of The Lord!!!

I will pray and declare God's promises, His goodness, and His loving kindness before, during, and after my victory!!

Hope declares to the darkness the end from the beginning!!

(Isaiah 46:9-10; Job 22:28 NKJV)

Hope declares light to the darkness!!

(Psalm 119:130; Genesis 1:1-3; Isaiah 55:11 NKJV)

Hope declares, God's promises, therefore my tomorrow is safe and secure!!!

(Isaiah 44:6-8 NKJV)

2 Chronicles 14:2-4 NKJV

King Asa was serving God, he had cleansed the land from all idols and pornographic fixtures and materials. He was a worshiper, Judah was experiencing peace and prosperity and suddenly, out of no where, their peace and harmony is shattered by a report and attack. He looks at his own resources, evaluates the situation, and realizes that he not able to meet this crisis. We can all relate to King Asa's problem, in one way or another. We have our own Suddenly's!!!

Suddenly, it happens, the report of the situation is dreary, despair and despondency clutches to my mind, helplessness punches me in the stomach and knocks the breath out of me, fear grabs me by the throat and I find it hard to speak and my emotions want to carry me into the pit of hopelessness and gloom!! What have I done, I don't deserve this!! This was just dumped in my lap, it was unexpected, I don't need this, I don't want this right now!!!! I know it happens to other people but not me but it is here, now, in my life and my family!! What will I do, what does the future hold for me now, will there be a future?

We look within ourselves, at our own resources and we sadly conclude that this is not enough to handle this sickening situation. Negative thoughts begin to bombard your mind like a B-52 opening its bomb bay door dropping the whole bomb load at one time!! My imagination begins to run wild with the worst possible scenarios that begins to paralyze me mentally and propel me into self-pity. I start to become angry and frustrated and I question God, why did You let this happen? Why are You doing this to me? What have I done to deserve this?

Then I start making deals with God, I'll start tithing consistently, I'll do whatever you want me to do or go wherever!! Just make this go away!! I don't want to face this, I would rather disappear!!

Well, is at the gate, what do I do? King Asa didn't run from it, he didn't stay in the palace and hide from it, hoping that tomorrow it will be gone when I wake up. He didn't go get drunk or purchase some drugs to escape the reality of the problem. He didn't give himself over to self-pity and depression, just totally give up and plan suicide and let the darkness win!!! He didn't go, in anger, and beat up his wife and kids or just leave everyone, run away to another city. No!!

King Asa chose to face the problem head on!! He saw an opportunity for God to be glorified in this moment. He chose life and blessing because He chose God!!! He remembered God's promise!!

(Deuteronomy 20:1-4 NKJV)

He chose light over the darkness!! (Deuteronomy 30:19 NKJV)

In choosing God and God's promises, God will turn the tide!! God will take evil's plan and written script and install His own plan and rewrite the script!! (Genesis 50:19-20 NKJV)

God says,"okay, this is your plan devil against my people. Well, I'm going to take this stage and scenario, turn it in favor of my child and bring glory and honor to my Name!!! Haman built the gallows for the Jews to be hung on and destroyed but who was hung!!! Goliath taunted the armies of God intending to kill and make them slaves but who was defeated and who got the glory!!!

But pastor, I've failed and messed up!!! If you've repented for anything done outside of His will, then God is going to take your failure and turn it into fertilizer (commercial or chemical manure) that will cause a new success to spring forth, it's Springtime!!!! (Micah 7:8 NKJV)

Asa made a quality choice, he decided he would own this situation instead of giving up and surrendering to the fact that, in the natural, he was heavily outnumbered!!

What does Asa do? He faces the problem and prays!! (**2 Chronicles 14:11-12 NKJV**)

When I pray, I'm declaring that God now owns this situation and that my faith and hope is in Him because of the covenant that I have with Him and the promises that He has made to me and my hope in God will not end in disappointment!!!

Romans 5:1-3 NKJV