The Valley of Achor as a Door of Hope

(Hosea 2:15)

1 Corinthians 13:8–10, 12 (NASB) · 13 (NIV)

8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if
there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.
9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect
comes, the partial will be done away. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly,
but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I
also have been fully known.

13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these
is love.

Faith · Hope · Love — these three remain

Colossians 1:3–6

3We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
praying always for you, 4since we heard of your faith in Christ
Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints; 5because of
the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard
in the word of truth, the gospel 6which has come to you, just as in
all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing,
even as it has been doing in you also since the day you heard of it
and understood the grace of God in truth;

1 Thessalonians 1:2–3

2We give thanks to God always for all of you, making
mention of you in our prayers; 3constantly bearing in mind
your work of faith and labor of love and perseverance of hope
in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and
Father,

Fruit Evidence

FAITH

“work of faith”
1 Thess 1:3

Good works
Righteous works
Kingdom works

LOVE

“labor of love”
1 Thess 1:3

Hard work (labor)
Selfless
Unconditional

HOPE

“perseverance of hope”
1 Thess 1:3

Perseverance
Patience (Waiting)
Steadfastness
Endurance

Hebrews 11:1 · NKJV

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

Romans 8:24 · NASB

“For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees?”

TESTIFY	Witness to what has happened — corroborated by sight.
CONFESS BY FAITH	Confess what your heart believes by the witness of the Holy Spirit
CONFESS IN HOPE	Confess what is promised for the future but has not yet been seen.

Faith is a today witness · Hope is a tomorrow expectation

1 Peter 1:3–5 · NASB

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be **born again to a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Hebrews 7:18–19 · NASB

18For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment …19(for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a **better hope**, through which we draw near to God.

1 Thessalonians 5:8 · NASB

“But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.”

1 Peter 1:13 · NASB

“Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope **completely** on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Faith & Love protect the heart · Hope protects the mind

Faith & Love proceed from God's righteousness

Righteous acts — proceed out of faith
Selfless labor — proceeds out of love

Hope of Salvation defeats anxiety

Hope — the confident expectation
Salvation — God's gloriously designed outcome

Hope causes us to stand in adversity

The Valley of Achor as a Door of Hope

(Hosea 2:15)

Matthew 24:6–13 · NASB

6 You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened,
for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. 7 For nation will rise
against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be
famines and earthquakes. 8 But all these things are merely the beginning of birth
pangs. 9 Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be
hated by all nations because of My name. 10 At that time many will fall away and
will betray one another and hate one another. 11 Many false prophets will arise and
will mislead many. 12 Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow
cold.

13 But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

Colossians 1:9–12 · NASB

9For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for
you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual
wisdom and understanding, 10so that you will **walk in a manner worthy of the
Lord**, to please Him in all respects, **bearing fruit in every good work** and
increasing in the knowledge of God; 11**strengthened with all power**,
according to His glorious might, for the **attaining of all steadfastness and
patience joyously** 12giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in
the inheritance of the saints in Light.

James 1:2–4 · NASB

2Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking in nothing**.

Romans 5:1–5 · NASB

1Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. 3And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; 4and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; 5 hope that does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

1 John 3:2–3 · NASB

2Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. 3And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Titus 2:11–14 · NKJV

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,
12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should
live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for
the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior
Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us
from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people,
zealous for good works.

1 Timothy 4:7–10 · NASB

7…discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; 8for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but **godliness** is profitable for all things, since it **holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come**. 9It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance. 10For it is **for this we labor and strive**, because **we have fixed our hope on the living God**, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.

Colossians 1:25–27 · NASB

25…the preaching of the word of God, 26that is, the mystery which has been hidden
from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints, 27to
whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery
among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Galatians 5:5 · NASB

5For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness.

Ephesians 1:18–19 · NASB

18I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.

Romans 8:28 · NASB

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

Psalm 17:15

“As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; I will be satisfied with Your likeness when I awake.”

Job 19:25

“As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth.”

Psalm 42:5

“Why are you in despair, O my soul? Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him for the help of His presence.”

Psalm 27:13

“I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.”

Ephesians 2:12–13 · NASB

12 remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded
from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of
promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in
Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by
the blood of Christ.

Fruit Evidence

FAITH	LOVE	HOPE
Good works	Hard work (labor)	Perseverance

Without Christ

UNBELIEF	LOVE	HOPELESS
Fear	Self	Anxiety

Religious Counterfeit

FAITH Facsimile	LOVE Facsimile	HOPE Facsimile
Doctrine	Performance	Wishful Thinking

Key Points

- Faith is for Today and relates to the heart
- Hope is for the Future and relates to the mind
- Hope is evidenced by the fruit of perseverance or endurance
- Faith is evidenced by the fruit of righteous acts
- Hope is built upon Faith – True hope and faith received by grace and stands on the Word of Truth.

True faith, love and hope

- Pillars to the walk of each member of His Body
- Desired fruit (evidence) are works, labor, and perseverance
- Designed to be ever increasing in measure and effectiveness

Knowing this:

Pursuing the Lord with all diligence to cultivate a Kingdom crop.

Potential outcomes of not knowing this:

- Falling prey to counterfeit versions of each
- Laziness, complacency

Faith and Hope are different

- Faith is for today · Hope is for the future
- Hope is founded on faith
- Each founded on the Word of Truth

Knowing this:

Rightly applying both to their intended Kingdom outcomes, with confidence that God is moving today and will move tomorrow.

Potential outcomes of not knowing this:

- Discouragement — “Why didn’t my faith work?”
- Complacency / laziness — waiting when faith was imparted to move

Trials, tests, tribulations and sufferings are part of the Kingdom SOP of equipping His people

Knowing this:

We can rejoice in His faithfulness to us, stand, and see our salvation.

Potential outcomes of not knowing this:

- Opposing God
- Receiving condemnation
- Complacency or avoidance

Eternal Hope is the bright morning star to our path

- Jesus is the Way
- Holy Spirit is our Guide
- The Father is our Destination

Knowing this:
Eyes fixed on the destination, keenly aware of how God has authored and will finish your journey.

Potential outcomes of not knowing this:

- Focused solely on the eternal promise, or solely on this life
- Susceptible to entanglements with worldly concerns