

Sermon Notes: The Anchor of Hope

Date: March 5, 2024

Key Verses: Hebrews 6:13-19 NKJV

13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. 16 For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all disputes. 17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the [a]immutability of His counsel, [b]confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two [c]immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we [d]might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. 19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,

Introduction: The Essence of Biblical Hope

- **I. God's Desire**: He wants to restore your hope, offering a confident expectation for your future.
 - Hope in the future gives you power in the present.
 - People without hope always return to their past.
 - People without hope can't face their future.

II. The Impact of Losing Hope

Problems Discourage Us

- Don't run from your problems. They will chase you all the days of your life.
- If you leave a job or a marriage because it's full of problems, the next season you enter, the problems will follow you and take on a different body.
- Stand firm and be a problem solver.
- Problems can discourage us, or we can let them develop us.

People Disappoint Us

• Human relationships can lead to disappointment, affecting our hope.

Circumstances Defeat Us

Life's unpredictable events can sometimes feel overwhelming.

II. Reviving Our Hope

- To rejuvenate hope, envisioning our future is essential.
- Abraham's Example (Romans 4): Despite the odds, Abraham's hope in God's promises never waned.

III. The Nature of Biblical Hope (Hebrews 6:13-19)

- Derived from God's Promises:
 - Hope is anchored in the promises of God, not in our circumstances.
 - Enduring pain is often a prerequisite for receiving God's promises.

IV. The Source of True Hope (Romans 15:13)

- God as the Foundation of Hope:
 - Divine hope surpasses natural hope, empowered by God's strength.
 - Overflowing with hope is possible through the Holy Spirit, leading to stability and success.

V. The Role of Faith and Hope

- Interconnectedness of Faith and Hope:
 - Faith is the substance of things hoped for; hope gives faith its target.
 - Maintaining faith ensures victory over life's challenges.

VI. Building a Foundation for Hope

- Grounded in God's Word:
 - Our hope should be based on what God says about us, His promises, and His plans for our future.
 - Embracing God's promises over pressure can lead to prosperity and security.

VII. Becoming Prisoners of Hope

- Embrace Hope for a Prosperous Future:
 - Being "prisoners of hope" means locking ourselves into God's promises,
 regardless of our current circumstances or past pains.
 - Hope, rooted in faith and God's promises, provides the stability and assurance we need to face life's storms and emerge victorious.