

- **Psalm 119:116–117 (NIV)**

¹¹⁶ Sustain me, my God, according to your promise, and I will live; do not let my hopes be dashed.

¹¹⁷ Uphold me, and I will be delivered;
I will always have regard for your decrees.

- **Proverbs 13:12 (ESV)**

Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

- **Proverbs 10:28 (ESV)**

The hope of the righteous brings joy,
but the expectation of the wicked will perish

- **Psalm 73**

A psalm of Asaph.

1 Surely God is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.

2 But as for me, my feet had almost slipped;
I had nearly lost my foothold.

3 For I envied the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

4 They have no struggles;
their bodies are healthy and strong.[A]

5 They are free from the burdens common to man;
they are not plagued by human ills.

- 6 Therefore pride is their necklace;
they clothe themselves with violence.
- 7 From their callous hearts comes iniquity[B];
the evil conceits of their minds know no limits.
- 8 They scoff, and speak with malice;
in their arrogance they threaten oppression.
- 9 Their mouths lay claim to heaven,
and their tongues take possession of the earth.
- 10 Therefore their people turn to them
and drink up waters in abundance.[C]
- 11 They say, "How can God know?
Does the Most High have knowledge?"
- 12 This is what the wicked are like—
always carefree, they increase in wealth.
- 13 Surely in vain have I kept my heart pure;
in vain have I washed my hands in innocence.
- 14 All day long I have been plagued;
I have been punished every morning.
- 15 If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
I would have betrayed your children.
- 16 When I tried to understand all this,
it was oppressive to me
- 17 till I entered the sanctuary of God;
then I understood their final destiny.

Hope *The confidence that, by integrating God's redemptive acts in the past with trusting human responses in the present, the faithful will experience the fullness of God's goodness both in the present and in the future.*

Biblical faith rests on the trustworthiness of God to keep His promises. The biblical view of hope is thus significantly different from that found in ancient Greek philosophy. The Greeks recognized that human beings expressed hope by nature; however, this kind of hope reflects both good and bad experiences. The future was thus a projection of one's own subjective possibilities (Bultmann, "ἐλπίς, elpis," 2.517). Biblical hope avoids this subjectivity by being founded on something that provides a sufficient basis for confidence in its fulfillment: God and His redemptive acts as they culminate in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

*Ben Craver, "[Hope](#)," in *The Lexham Bible Dictionary*, ed. John D. Barry et al. (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016).*

- **Job 14:7–9 (ESV)**

7 "For there is **hope** for a tree,
if it be cut down, that it will sprout again,
and that its shoots will not cease.

8 Though its root grow old in the earth,
and its stump die in the soil,

9 yet at the scent of water it will bud
and put out branches like a young plant.

- **Psalm 71:5–8 (NIV)**

5 **For you have been my hope**, Sovereign Lord,
my confidence since my youth.

6 From birth I have relied on you;
you brought me forth from my mother's womb.
I will ever praise you.

⁷ I have become a sign to many;
you are my strong refuge.

⁸ My mouth is filled with your praise,
declaring your splendor all day long.

- **Psalm 42:5 (NIV)**

⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.

- **Ephesians 4:3–4 (NIV)**

³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of
peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to **one**
hope when you were called;

- **Psalm 62:5–7 (ESV)**

⁵ For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.

⁶ He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

⁷ On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

- **Hebrews 6:17–20 (NIV)**

¹⁷ Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. ¹⁸ God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. ¹⁹ We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, ²⁰ where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

- **Hebrews 11:1–2 (NIV)**

11 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

- **Romans 5:2–5 (NIV)**

² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

- **Zechariah 9:12–13 (NIV)**

¹² Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope;
even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

¹³ I will bend Judah as I bend my bow
and fill it with Ephraim.
I will rouse your sons, Zion,
against your sons, Greece,
and make you like a warrior's sword.

- **Ezra 10:1–4 (NIV)**

10 While Ezra was praying and confessing, weeping and throwing himself down before the house of God, a large crowd of Israelites—men, women and children—gathered around him. They too wept bitterly. ² Then Shekariah son of Jehiel, one of the descendants of Elam, said to Ezra, “We have been unfaithful to our God by marrying foreign women from the peoples around us. **But in spite of this, there is still hope for Israel.** ³ Now let us make a covenant before our God to send away all these women and their children, in accordance with the counsel of my lord and of those who fear the commands of our God. Let it be done according to the Law. ⁴ Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it.”

- **Romans 15:13 (NIV)**

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all **joy and peace as you trust in him**, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.