

1 John 2:28-3:3 – Hope Leads to Holiness

Introduction

1. Biblical Hope *versus* What is Usually Meant by Hope

Main Point: Biblical hope is a confident assurance in future Heavenly realities that are promised and confirmed by God & promote present moral holiness. This Biblical hope is formed by the Christian's current privilege as a child of God and a determined future destiny with Jesus Christ established by His second coming.

2. The Idea of Biblical Hope is in Our Text (2:28, 3:2-3)

The Nature of Biblical Hope Defined and Described

1. The Source of Biblical Hope is God (Psalm 43:5, 78:5-7)
2. Hope is a Gracious Gift (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)
3. Hope Comes from God's Word (Rom 15:4, Ps 119:43)
4. Hope is a Defensible Reality (1 Peter 3:15)
5. Hope is Secured in the Resurrection of Christ (1 Pet 1:3)
6. Hope is Validated by the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13)
7. Hope is a Present Wartime Refuge (1 Thessalonians 5:8)
8. Hope is Given to Produce True Blessing! (Jeremiah 17:7)
9. Hope Eliminates the Fear of Death (1 Cor 15:56-57)
10. Hope is a Fixed Reality (Titus 1:1-2, Hebrews 6:19-20)
11. Hope will be Fulfilled at the Second Advent (Titus 2:13)

Biblical Hope Is Caused by Our Present Privilege (28a, 1, 2a)

1. You are Loved by God the Father
 - a. Behold! Look! See! - Marvel at this Love of God
 - b. God's Love is Perfect and Without Blemish
 - c. God's Love cannot be added to or subtracted from
 - d. God's Love is Infinite and Eternal
 - e. God's Love for His People was set upon them before the Creation of the World – our names were written in the Book of Life! (Rev 13:7-8)
 - f. In Love God sent His Son to pay for OUR Sin!
2. You are a Child of God the Father
 - a. Sonship: a right given to God's People (Jn 1:12-13)
 - b. By nature we were not Children of God, but Children of Wrath, born Sinners (Ephesians 2:3)
 - c. God in His mercy Graced us with Eternal Life (4-5)
 - d. God's Love Predestined us for Adoption into His Family (Ephesians 1:5)
 - e. As a Child you are Exclusively Loved

- f. Jesus died so that the Children of Wrath/Flesh could become the Children of Promise (See Romans 9:8)
- g. The World does not Know us as God's Children, because it does not know God the Father

Biblical Hope Is Created by Our Determined Destiny (28b, 2b)

1. The Christian's Destiny is a Fixed Reality
 - a. You will Inherit the Kingdom
 - b. You will become Like Christ – Sinless, Whole, Perfect, Righteous; a New body, a New mind, a New will
 - c. You will be Fully Redeemed
 - d. The body of death will be transformed into an immortal and imperishable glorious body (1 Corinthians 15:52)
2. This is Our Hope and it does not compare with what we deal with now in the world (Romans 8:18-25)
3. This hope is yours whether you *feel* it or not – every born again Christian has this hope given to them by the Father

Biblical Hope Produces Persistent Holiness (28a, 29, 3)

1. Biblical Hope is the Horsepower Empowering a Holy Life
2. Abide in Jesus Now for Confident Virtuous Dignity at His Second Coming
 - a. Will you be glad at Jesus' glorious appearing, or will you shrink back in shame? Repentance and Belief are essential
3. Born Again Believers Practice Righteousness as Christ Is Our Righteous Example and Forerunner of Obedience
 - a. We are expected to Follow Christ
 - b. We are expected to Die to Ourselves
 - c. We are expected to Carry our Cross
 - d. We are expected to Go and Proclaim the Good News
 - e. We are expected to be Christlike, conformed to His image
 - f. We are expected to be Salt and Light
 - g. Cry out to God for True Hope and a thirst for Christlike righteousness, and to zealously seek the Kingdom of God
4. Purify Yourself as Christ is Pure
 - a. God Commands, "Be Holy, as I am Holy" – Be Pure
 - b. The Purified Bride of Christ will Behold God the Son (Matthew 5:8)
 - c. The Holy Life must be Pursued Now (1 Peter 2:2-3)
 - d. Grace Given Hope Empowers the Christian to Live a Holy Life
 - i. The Father Loves You = Purify Yourself
 - ii. You're a Child of God = Pursue Righteousness
 - iii. Jesus is Coming Again = Be confident at His Return, Abiding in Him until the End