

## There is Hope

There is hope! Because of life's difficulties, many times you may have felt like giving up. You may have felt like, "It's no use." But I am here to tell you the Good News...there is a God of hope.

Job suffered the loss of his children, his livelihood, his health, and wealth. After suffering for a while, he felt like giving up and said, "*What is my strength, that I should hope? and what is my end, that I should prolong my life?*" (Job 6:11). Job had lost all hope and wanted to end it all. Yet there was purpose for his suffering. God had chosen to test Job for his faithfulness, though he was unaware of why he was going through this. God was proving to Satan that Job would remain faithful even when things weren't perfect in his life. And God knew that Job would endure; He knew that Job would be faithful. Basically, God had his hand on the situation the entire time. Satan could only do what God allowed – and only for a season.

God may allow you to go through sufferings and losses to the point that you want to give up. But before you do, know that God has created you for a specific purpose, and that purpose is not yet fulfilled, or He would have already taken you. God Himself prepared you in your mother's womb and there is not another like you. Even before you were conceived, He already had a purpose and a plan specifically for you. And here is what God has to say to you, "*For I know the purposes which I am purposing for you, says Jehovah; purposes of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope*" (Jeremiah 29:11).

Because of life's hardships, we often cannot see our own purpose or our future plans, so hope leaves us. Furthermore, we often compounded our difficult life by making bad choices, choosing the wrong ways, or trying to make everyone else's life miserable because we are. And yet again, I say...there is hope.

God never designed you to live life on your own. He knew that without Him, you would mess up your life and become miserable in your own skin. But the Good News is that it only takes one (1) decision to turn everything around. That one decision is to invite Jesus into your heart and ask Him to help with every decision you make. *You must know that when life is at it's worse, God is at His best.* God waits for you to turn to Him because He has already designed a plan to give you a brighter future along with a brand-new hope. What is impossible to you is totally possible with God. He alone has the ability to give you a new beginning that includes happiness and a new hope. But His plan for you doesn't work unless He is included because He loves you and wants to be involved to clean up your messy life and make it better.

Know that God does not give evil plans but plans of peace. Without hope, without peace, life is miserable. Romans 15:13 says, "*I pray that the God who gives hope will fill you with much joy and peace as you trust in him. Then you will have more and more hope, and it will flow out of you by the power of the Holy Spirit.*" If you are lacking hope, if you are lacking joy or peace, ask God to come in and fulfill His promises to you.

Dear Jesus,

You see them. You know them. You know their sufferings, losses, and hopelessness. But I know that you are not finished with them yet. No matter their age or what has happened, you still have good plans for them. I pray that they have the strength to turn to you. Lord, you are waiting to be with them. You wait to do great miracles and give them a new life. Show them how special they are to you. Give them strength to hope again. Give them the strength to forgive those who have harmed them. Help them to release all their anger and frustrations to you. And help them forgive themselves and release that deep well of hurt within. Jesus, your Word says that weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning. Though they have suffered much loss and hopelessness, you were there all along. So, I pray that you remove their sufferings, restore their losses, and fill their hearts with a brand-new joy and a new hope. Yes, and Amen!

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