

The Promises That Give Me Hope

Hope. That is what the Christian experience is all about. Hope. We share a common hope. It is about a loving God that has offered a way out of a world full of problems.

These are the times when we are grieved about a challenge in our life. It is called being a human being. There are times when we wonder if God has forsaken us and left us to suffer on our own. There are times when we initially grieve over a challenge in life before we actually get on our knees and pray for the help we need. Robert Williams, a painter once said that humans are more fascinated with a road kill than with a flower. In other words, we initially see the doom and gloom. We look down before we look up. But that's alright as long as we finish looking up.

We shall never understand all of God's ways, that our suffering will only result in the power of God being unleashed to bring good in our lives, but we need to realize that God's answers to our prayers will only be what is best for us. Then and only then will we be able to realize that God may hide His purpose in order that we may live on His promise.

Psalm 73:23, "Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand."

God has not left us. God has not abandoned us. At the same time God has also decided not to give us a golden, flower covered path to heaven. Why? For the same reason our parents did not put a silver spoon in our mouth when we were born. They wanted us to grow and learn when we made mistakes and when we made good choices. And, like our parents, God has always had His hand out for us to hold on to. The answer to our struggles, and what is able to change them from being a problem into a challenge is whether or not we are holding on to His hand. We may be struggling because we are trying to walk alone.

Psalm 73:24, "You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory."

There are times when we need to lean on another shoulder and cry, but there needs to come the time when we lift our head up and let our faces say, "I believe in God's promises."

Psalm 73:26, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

Just remember this. God is not the source of our pain, but He is the certain cure.

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