

HOPE (ELPIS)
Biblical Words
Banska Bystrica, 24th November 2019

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ θεὸς καὶ πατὴρ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ὁ κατὰ τὸ πολὺ αὐτοῦ ἔλεος ἀναγεννήσας ἡμᾶς εἰς ἐλπίδα ζώσαν δι' ἀναστάσεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐκ νεκρῶν,

1Pt 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

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0. INTRODUCTION

- past words: "scripture"; "law"; "gospel"; "sin"; "repentance"; "faith"

0.1. POPULAR MEANINGS OF THE WORD "HOPE"

- uncertain expectations

0.2. HOPE AS A DIMENSION OF FAITH

- **Gal 5:5** For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness (ἡμεῖς γὰρ πνεύματι ἐκ πίστεως ἐλπίδα δικαιοσύνης ἀπεκδεχόμεθα)
- **Rom 8:24** For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? (τῇ γὰρ ἐλπίδι ἐσώθημεν· ἐλπὶς δὲ βλεπομένη οὐκ ἔστιν ἐλπίς· ὃ γὰρ βλέπει τίς

ἐλπίζει)

- **1Cor 13:13** So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love (Νυνὶ δὲ μένει πίστις, ἐλπίς, ἀγάπη, τὰ τρία ταῦτα· μείζων δὲ τούτων ἡ ἀγάπη)
- **Rom 4:18** In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be” (Ὁς παρ’ ἐλπίδα ἐπ’ ἐλπίδι ἐπίστευσεν εἰς τὸ γενέσθαι αὐτὸν πατέρα πολλῶν ἐθνῶν κατὰ τὸ εἰρημένον· οὕτως ἔσται τὸ σπέρμα σου)
- **Heb 3:6** And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope (οὐ οἶκός ἐσμεν ἡμεῖς, ἐάν[περ] τὴν παρρησίαν καὶ τὸ καύχημα τῆς ἐλπίδος κατάσχωμεν)
- **1Pt 3:15** but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you (κύριον δὲ τὸν Χριστὸν ἀγιάσατε ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ὑμῶν, ἔτοιμοι ἀεὶ πρὸς ἀπολογία πάντι τῷ αἰτοῦντι ὑμᾶς λόγον περὶ τῆς ἐν ὑμῖν ἐλπίδος)

1. THE CONTENT OF THE CHRISTIAN HOPE

1.1. PERSONAL

- **1Tim 4:10** For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe (εἰς τοῦτο γὰρ κοπιῶμεν καὶ ἀγωνιζόμεθα, ὅτι ἠλπίκαμεν ἐπὶ θεῷ ζῶντι, ὅς ἐστιν σωτὴρ πάντων ἀνθρώπων μάλιστα πιστῶν)
- **1Tim 1:1** ...God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope (κατ’ ἐπιταγὴν θεοῦ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν καὶ Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ τῆς ἐλπίδος ἡμῶν)
- **Col 1:27** ...Christ in you, the hope of glory (ὁ ἐστιν Χριστὸς ἐν ὑμῖν, ἡ ἐλπίς τῆς δόξης)
- **1Pt 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (Εὐλογητὸς ὁ θεὸς καὶ πατὴρ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ὁ κατὰ τὸ πολὺ αὐτοῦ ἔλεος ἀναγεννήσας ἡμᾶς εἰς ἐλπίδα ζῶσαν δι’ ἀναστάσεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐκ νεκρῶν)

1.2. TREASURES IN HEAVEN

- Lk 16 → Parable
- **Mt 6:19-21** Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Μὴ θησαυρίζετε ὑμῖν θησαυροὺς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ὅπου σὴς καὶ βρώσις ἀφανίζει καὶ ὅπου κλέπται διορύσσουσιν καὶ κλέπτουσιν· ²⁰ θησαυρίζετε δὲ ὑμῖν θησαυροὺς ἐν οὐρανῷ, ὅπου οὔτε σὴς οὔτε βρώσις ἀφανίζει καὶ ὅπου κλέπται οὐ διορύσσουσιν οὐδὲ κλέπτουσιν· ²¹ ὅπου γὰρ ἐστιν ὁ θησαυρός σου, ἐκεῖ ἔσται καὶ ἡ καρδία σου)
- **1Thes 2:19** For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?

2. HOPE AS A VIRTUE

2.1. PSYCHOLOGICAL

- **Pro 13:12** Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life (הַתְּקוּוּת הַמְּדוּמָה מַחֲרִיבָה לֵב וְעֵץ חַיִּים תְּמַלֵּא חַיִּים)
- **Job 11:18** And you will feel secure, because there is hope; you will look around and take your rest in security (וְיָשָׁן בְּבִטְחוֹן כִּי יִהְיֶה לְךָ מָנוֹחַ וְיָשָׁן בְּבִטְחוֹן)
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2.2. SPIRITUAL

- **Rom 15:13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope (Ὁ δὲ θεὸς τῆς ἐλπίδος πληρώσαι ὑμᾶς πάσης χαρᾶς καὶ εἰρήνης ἐν τῷ πιστεύειν, εἰς τὸ περισσεύειν ὑμᾶς ἐν τῇ ἐλπίδι ἐν δυνάμει πνεύματος ἁγίου)

2.3.THE SOURCE OF HOPE

- **2Thes 2:16** God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace (θεός ὁ πατήρ ἡμῶν ὁ ἀγαπήσας ἡμᾶς καὶ δοὺς παράκλησιν αἰωνίαν καὶ ἐλπίδα ἀγαθὴν ἐν χάριτι)
- **Heb 10:23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful (κατέχωμεν τὴν ὁμολογίαν τῆς ἐλπίδος ἀκλινη, πιστὸς γὰρ ὁ ἐπαγγειλάμενος)
- **Rom 15:4** For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope (ὅσα γὰρ προεγράφη, εἰς τὴν ἡμετέραν διδασκαλίαν ἐγράφη, ἵνα διὰ τῆς ὑπομονῆς καὶ διὰ τῆς παρακλήσεως τῶν γραφῶν τὴν ἐλπίδα ἔχωμεν)

3. PROPHECIES AND ESCHATOLOGY

3.1.STUDYING PROPHECIES

- **Tit 2:11-13** For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior **Jesus Christ**, (Ἐπεφάνη γὰρ ἡ χάρις τοῦ θεοῦ σωτήριος πᾶσιν ἀνθρώποις ¹² παιδεύουσα ἡμᾶς, ἵνα ἀρνησάμενοι τὴν ἀσέβειαν καὶ τὰς κοσμικὰς ἐπιθυμίας σωφρόνως καὶ δικαίως καὶ εὐσεβῶς ζήσωμεν ἐν τῷ νῦν αἰῶνι, ¹³ προσδεχόμενοι τὴν μακαρίαν ἐλπίδα καὶ ἐπιφάνειαν τῆς δόξης τοῦ μεγάλου θεοῦ καὶ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ)

3.2.THE JUDGMENT

- **Rev 20:11** Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them
- **2Cor 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil
- **John 5:24** Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life

3.3.PERSONAL ESCHATOLOGY

- **Acts 23:6** It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial.
- **1Cor 15:[1]-58** Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.
- **Col 1:4-5** we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven.
- **Eph 1:17-18** ...may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you

4. FRUIT OF HOPE

4.1.PURITY

- **1John 3:2-3** Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we will be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure (ἀγαπητοί, νῦν τέκνα θεοῦ ἐσμεν, καὶ οὕτω ἐφανερώθη τί ἐσόμεθα. οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἐὰν φανερωθῇ, ὅμοιοι αὐτῷ ἐσόμεθα, ὅτι ὁψόμεθα αὐτὸν καθὼς ἐστίν. ³ καὶ πᾶς ὁ ἔχων τὴν ἐλπίδα ταύτην ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἀγνίζει ἑαυτόν, καθὼς ἐκεῖνος ἀγνός ἐστίν)

4.2.ASSURANCE

- **Heb 6:18-19** by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. ¹⁹ We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the

curtain (διὰ δύο πραγμάτων ἀμεταθέτων, ἐν οἷς ἀδύνατον ψεύσασθαι [τὸν] θεόν, ἰσχυρὰν παράκλησιν ἔχωμεν οἱ καταφυγόντες κρατῆσαι τῆς προκειμένης ἐλπίδος· ¹⁹ ἢν ὡς ἄγκυραν ἔχωμεν τῆς ψυχῆς ἀσφαλῆ τε καὶ βεβαίαν καὶ εἰσερχομένην εἰς τὸ ἐσώτερον τοῦ καταπετάσματος)

4.3.JOY

- **Rom 5:2** Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God (δι' οὗ καὶ τὴν προσαγωγὴν ἐσχίκαμεν [τῇ πίστει] εἰς τὴν χάριν ταύτην ἐν ἣ ἐστήκαμεν καὶ καυχώμεθα ἐπ' ἐλπίδι τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ)
- **Rom 12:12** Rejoice in hope (τῇ ἐλπίδι χαίροντες), be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer

4.4.ENDURANCE

- **Ps 31:25 (24)** Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!
(הַיְהִי לִי כֹחַ וְלִבִּי מְבִיטָה לַיהוָה וְיִשְׁמַח לִבִּי יְהוָה)
- **Rom 5:3-5** ...we rejoice in our (1) sufferings, knowing that suffering produces (2) endurance, ⁴and endurance produces (3) character, and character produces (4) hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us (ἀλλὰ καὶ καυχώμεθα ἐν ταῖς (1) θλίψεσιν, εἰδότες ὅτι ἡ θλίψις (2) ὑπομονὴν κατεργάζεται, ⁴ ἡ δὲ ὑπομονὴ (3) δοκιμὴν, ἡ δὲ δοκιμὴ (4) ἐλπίδα. ⁵ ἡ δὲ ἐλπίς οὐ καταισχύνει, ὅτι ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ θεοῦ ἐκκέχυται ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν διὰ πνεύματος ἁγίου τοῦ δοθέντος ἡμῖν)

4.5.PROTECTION

- **1Thes 5:8** But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation (ἡμεῖς δὲ ἡμέρας ὄντες νήφωμεν ἐνδυσάμενοι θώρακα πίστεως καὶ ἀγάπης καὶ περικεφαλαίαν ἐλπίδα σωτηρίας)

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Billy GRAHAM *Nádej pre utrápené srdce, Svornosť, Bratislava, 1993*
- Thomas BROOKS *Heaven on Earth, Banner of Truth, 1983.*
- BOICE, James Montgomery *Základy křesťanské víry Návrat domů, 1999, (část „Konec dějin“)*