

WAVE

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Hope for the BROKEN-HEARTED

As he looked out his window, all Jeremiah saw was hopelessness.⁵¹

Burning buildings, dead bodies, tear-stained cheeks. The Prophet became disillusioned, depressed, and in despair. He had believed a little lie and it disconnected him from the truth (spiritual reality).

In his mind, he had become the victim and blamed God. He was confused and starting to withdraw into thoughts of escape. He was on the verge of suicidal thoughts... and he is not alone. Many other 'great' men of Biblical times have been there, too (Elijah, Jonah, Job, Solomon, Saul, Moses).

Have you ever been so deep as to formulate an escape plan or to contemplate suicide?

⁵¹ Jeremiah 3:2-21

Many look for hope in God only to find that it is NOT where they expect. I am sorry, but I do not find hope in the fact that God protects me from pain (because He does not – at least not totally). I do not have hope that life is a bed of roses, because it is not. I don't even hope in the fact that God will always take away my pain -- because He will not.

“Hoping in God” is very different from common hope. A scriptural hope is a **certainty**; a worldly hope is nothing of the sort. All earthly hopes imply doubt and insecurity: “I hope we will win... .” Whereas spiritual hope establishes a know-so kind of expectation: “I have a hope because we are on the winning side...”⁵²

Which kind of hope do you have? Is it simply optimistic, wishful thinking, or is it confident certainty?

⁵² Acts 27:25

God's Promises for the Broken

1. The Lord is VERY CLOSE to me when my heart is broken – especially when it's broken over sin, evil, and the things that break His heart, too.⁵³ Ever notice that it's not natural to get intimate in a crowd? God would love to isolate you so He could have some personal time with you.

2. Brokenness brings BLESSINGS.⁵⁴ I do not understand it, but Jesus promised it. He said that when we are zapped of all heart and at the bottom of the barrel, we are in THE place where we see God provide most.*

3. Being broken strips my FAKE & increases my FAITH.⁵⁵ And, believe me, I need help with my hypocrisy. I am not as transparent as I pretend, but, when the pain sets in, I usually lay aside my plastic mask for some real help.

⁵³ Psalm 34:18

⁵⁴ Matthew 5:3-4

*v 3-4 imply blessings both in this life and in eternity

⁵⁵ Luke 18:10-14

Can you relate? Be honest with yourself and with God before it is too late!

4. Trusting the Lord will bring joy and PEACE.⁵⁶ Faith is the key to happiness. I will never find fulfillment living by sight (on a merely-human level). Why would I expect God to give something spiritual when I live so naturally?

5. POWER and overflowing hope comes through the Holy Spirit.⁵⁷

How do these promises make you feel? What kind of life springs forth from these seeds of hope?

⁵⁶ Philippians 4:6-7

⁵⁷ Romans 15:13