

Unpacking Hope

When Hope Hurts ... "Play Your Part"

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Intro: "When You Pray, Move Your Feet." - An African Proverb

Divine **Promises** are attached to Human **Participation**.

There is a certain synergy between **<u>Divine</u>** Potency and <u>Human</u> <u>Agency</u> - Meaning divinity has the Power but humanity has to participate.

When we pray like it's up to God and work like it's up to us, there is always hope.

There is an aspect of **Hope** that can make us lazy and apathetic.

Quote of Discussion: "Hope in reality is the worst of all evils because it prolongs the torments of man." - Friedrich Neitzche

Part I

God's Part vs. Our Part

I. **Proverbs 3:5-6**

If we **trust**, God will **direct** our path.

II. Psalm 37:1-2

If we **<u>fret</u>** not nor be **<u>envious</u>**, God will **<u>cut</u>** them down.

III. Psalm 37:4

If we **delight** in the Lord, the God will **give** us the desires of our hearts.

IV. Malachi 3:10-11

If we <u>bring</u> our tithes, God will <u>open</u> the windows of heaven, <u>pour</u> out blessings, <u>rebuke</u> the devourer.

V. Matthew 6:33

If we <u>seek</u> first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness, then God will <u>add</u> all these things.

VI. Isaiah 26:3

If we keep our minds on God, God will keep us in perfect peace.

THE HOUSE OF HOPE MACON

Part II

Healthy Hope means: **Divine** Power works with our Human **Participation**.

Sometimes hoping includes **helping**.

- I. Can we be obedient when we cannot see? John 9:1-7
- II. Can we be obedient when it's heavy and it stinks? John 11:38-44 (v. 39, v.44)
- III. Can we be obedient when we are <u>tired</u> and have had no <u>success</u>? Luke 5:2-7
- IV. Can we be obedient when the <u>instructions</u> make no <u>sense</u>? Luke 17:12-14

Part III

You'll Never Regret Playing Your Part

- I. God will make your <u>labor</u> worth it15:58
- II. God is able to keep you from falling. Jude 1:20-24