

Pastor Ron Case  
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## **“Victory Over Despair”**

*“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”  
(1 Corinthians 15:57)*

### **Hope – The Vital Element**

**Proverbs 13:12** – “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.”

**Jeremiah 29:11** – “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” \_

**Romans 8:23-24** – (23) “And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. (24) For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees”?

**Titus 2:13** – “waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,”

**Romans 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.”

**Hope is like Oxygen to the Soul**

### **Hope Helps:**

#### **(1) Hope in Christ**

**1 Timothy 1:1** – “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope”

#### **(2) Your Labor is not in Vain**

**1 Timothy 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.

#### **(3) Don’t Trade in the Real for the Artificial**

**1 Timothy 5:5-6, 11-12** – (5) “She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her

hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, (6) but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives. (11) But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry (12) and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith.”

#### **(4) Beware the Deceitfulness of Riches**

1 Timothy 6:9-10, 17-19 – (9) “But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. (10) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (17) As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. (18) They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, (19) thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.”

#### **Questions to Ponder:**

- (1) What impacted me most from this messa**
- (2) Am I daily choosing to “put my hope in God”? (Ps. 42:5, 11, 43:5)**
- (3) Have I learned to discern between true hope and artificial hopes? (Lamentations 3:21-24; Luke 12:18-21)**

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)