



women
devoted to God
Lesson 4

Confident Expectations

by Sarah Hartwig

*And now, Lord, for what do I wait?
My hope is in You.
Psalm 39:7*

Introduction

How do we reconcile our hopes with our circumstances?

Is it wrong to hope for marriage?

Is there a Scriptural promise about marriage?

Hope: confident expectation
in what is certain to happen.

Hope in God Himself and in His certain promises.

Hope in God Himself

A. My God is good.

- Psalm 119:68

You are good and do good; Teach me Your statutes.

- Psalm 145:9

The Lord is good to all, and His mercies are over all His works.

- Psalm 34:8

Taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

- Psalm 27:13-14

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord;

Be strong and let your heart take courage;

Yes, wait for the Lord.

B. My God is abundant in lovingkindness.

- Psalm 103:11

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is His lovingkindness toward those who
fear Him.*

- Psalm 40:11

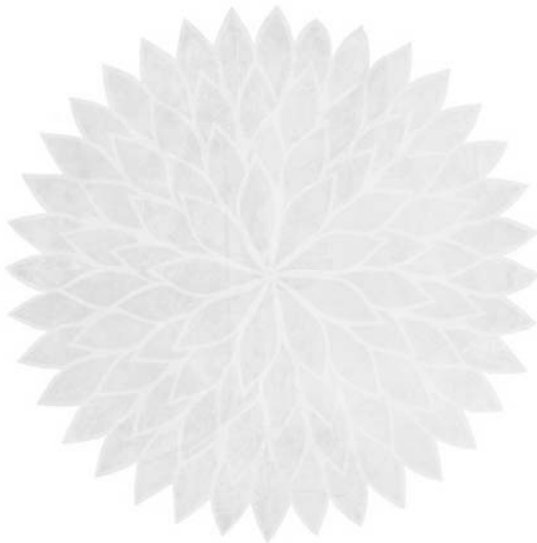
*You, O Lord, will not withhold Your compassion
from me; Your lovingkindness and Your truth
will continually preserve me.*

- Psalm 25:10

*All the paths of the Lord are lovingkindness and
truth to those who keep His covenant and His
testimonies.*

- Psalm 33:18

*Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear
Him, on those who hope for His lovingkindness.*



C. My God is infinitely wise.

- Romans 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

- Psalm 147:5

Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.

- Psalm 104:24

Lord, how many are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; The earth is full of Your possessions.

- Romans 16:27

To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen.

Since God is good, abundant in lovingkindness, and infinitely wise, trust Him to do what is best for you.

- Jeremiah 18:3-6

“Real Christlikeness is when God doesn’t force my hand but I willingly, joyfully, and delightedly submit when looking the very worst in the face.”

Mark Minnick

“Wherever you are, be all there. Live to the hilt every situation you believe to be the will of God.”

Jim Elliot

Hope in God's Certain Promises

A. Hope in spiritual realities (Hebrews 12:18-24).

"We *have* already arrived in principle where in full reality we shall be forever. The future is already the present. In today we possess tomorrow. On earth we own Heaven."

William MacDonald

1. We have the privilege of entering the sanctuary of heaven.
2. We have come to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven.
3. We are come to God, the Judge of all.
4. We have come to the spirits of the righteous made perfect.
5. We have come to Jesus, the Mediator of a new covenant.

B. Hope in the LORD's good shepherding now
(Psalm 23).

*¹ The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want. ² He makes me lie
down in green pastures; He leads me
beside quiet waters. ³ He restores my
soul; He guides me in the paths of
righteousness for His name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I fear no evil,
for You are with me; Your rod
and Your staff, they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
You have anointed my head with oil;
My cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness
and lovingkindness will follow me all the
days of my life, and I will dwell
in the house of the Lord forever.*

C. Hope in God's provision. He is my Jehovah-Jireh, my God who supplies.

- Psalm 37:25

I have been young and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his descendants begging bread.

- Philippians 4:19

And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

- Matthew 6:25-34

Conclusion

Be careful not to slide into the ditch of thinking marriage has all the answers: “If only I had a husband . . .” — like husbands are genies in bottles who fix all of our problems.

Hope in God Himself.
Hope in God’s certain promises.