

Cecil and Lisa Paxton Ministries

November 2022



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**We must
continue to
hold firmly to
our declaration
of faith. The
one who made
the promise is
faithful.**

Hebrews 10:23 (GW)

Greetings to you all, our dear partners
and friends!

The Helmet of Hope

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (KJV)

*But let us, who are of the day, be sober,
putting on the breastplate of faith and
love; and for an helmet, the hope of
salvation.*

The fact that hope is defined as a helmet reveals an important area of benefit—the head. The head involves the area of thinking along with the words we speak.

Hope itself can be defined as an expectation of good. It is one thing to desire something good, but it's another when, in life, you identify with good belonging to you in all that has been provided through the cross. Faith is the ability of your heart to trust with confidence, but hope is the foundation for your faith.

In Romans 4, we are told that Abraham did not waver in faith through unbelief but was strengthened in faith. It says that he did not consider his own body or the deadness of Sarah's womb. Our hearts determine the direction in which we focus, like a guidance system. When we are consumed with good instead of bad, our automatic response is an expectation of good.

Hebrews 6:19 tells us that hope is like a firm and steady anchor for our souls. In fact, hope causes us to enter within the veil, where we experience the very presence of God through receiving the help of the Holy Spirit. God's grace through Jesus Christ has provided us with an enabling ability of the Holy Spirit. This is the difference between living for Jesus in our own strength and allowing Jesus to live His life through us with the Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 10:23 (GW)

We must continue to hold firmly to our declaration of faith. The one who made the promise is faithful.

When our hearts back up the words we speak, those words are a declaration of faith. We say what we mean and mean what we say. This is one of the steps toward establishing an identity of good within our heart beliefs. Proverbs 2:1 tells us to treasure His commands within us. This is part of the process of receiving wisdom and applying understanding within our hearts (Prov. 2:2).

The first part of Proverbs 13:12 (NKJV) says, *“Hope deferred makes the heart sick.”* Deferred hope is unrelenting disappointment. Many times, Christians who want good and are trying to believe that good belongs to them through Jesus experience this type of unrelenting disappointment. Their hearts are not fully persuaded in the promises of God’s Word through the help of the Holy Spirit, and that sets them up for continual disappointment. If you experience this enough, it will produce a soul sickness within the heart—an emotional feeling where you are so tired of constant disappointment.

Jesus can heal our hearts from all pain. The last part of Proverbs 13:12 says, *“When the desire comes, it is a tree of life.”* When, in the imagination of our hearts, we are identifying with the promise already fulfilled, hope is a life-giving tree. It is in the Spirit, where in Him we live and move and have our being, but it manifests in the natural realm in which we physically live.

Colorado Ministry Office

Here at the ministry in Colorado, we are believing for a used Toyota Tacoma or Tundra pickup truck for transporting things that are beyond what a car can handle. We have reached the point where we realize that having a truck would be a beneficial tool for the ministry. Thank you for believing with us as we are open for a donated truck or for the finances to purchase one.

Testimonies: Responses to Our YouTube Teachings

“Thank you for your continued voice to guide us in truth. Praise Jesus!”

“Very good, Cecil. Amen.”

“This word is powerful and saturates our ‘self’ so beautifully.”

“Exactly what I was studying! Keeping my eyes ‘fixed’ on Him only and not the problem! This is so awesome!”

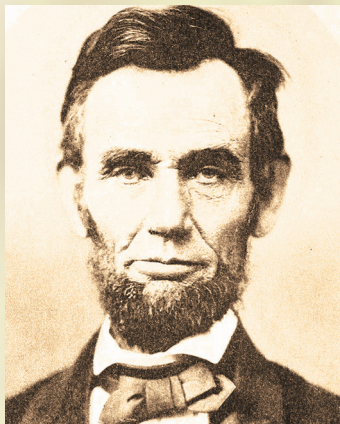
“Praise the Lord! This needs to be listened to often!”

“Thank you, Cecil. So good!”

“This is a powerful message and truth! In our oneness with Jesus, we can speak those things He can respond to. Oh, how He wants to love through each of our lives. Love you both!”

**Have a blessed and happy
Thanksgiving!**

Cecil + Lisa



The Origins of Thanksgiving

In 1863, Sarah J. Hale encouraged President Abraham Lincoln to establish a national day of thanksgiving, and he fulfilled her request later that year, at the height of the Civil War. In a proclamation, he entreated all Americans to commend to God's tender care those who had become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the civil strife and to ask Him to heal the wounds of the nation.

Last Paragraph of the Transcript from President Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation, October 3, 1863:

I do, therefore, invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

William H. Seward, Secretary of State

How blessed we are that President Lincoln established our national day of Thanksgiving!



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www.clpmi.org

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