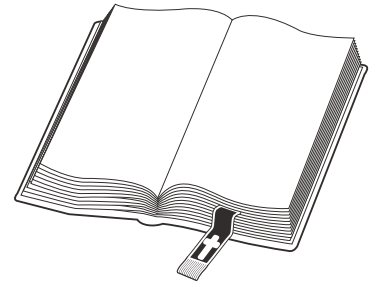


True Hope Comes from the Lord



“My soul faints for Your salvation, but I hope in Your word.” Psalm 119:81

Number 29 in the series “The Joy of Obeying God’s Word”

Let us see what the Lord has to say on the subject of the sanctity of human life. I was 38 years old when I repented of my sins and trusted Christ as my Savior. Up until that time, there were many times when I wished I were dead and many times I thought of suicide. From my perspective, *my life was in ruins...I had no hope*. My mother had three back street abortions in her attempts to kill me. It is a miracle that I am alive. Countless times over the next 16 years, she would tell me that I was a mistake, that she did not love me, that she wished I was dead, that I was no good, and that I would never amount to anything.

My dad had left before I was born. I was raised in a violent, alcoholic home where I was constantly beaten, and my mother’s boyfriends abused me. I also knew that my mother and neighbor ladies did abortions on one another. Life had no value to me. I believed that it was better to abort a baby than bring it into this world if it was not wanted and loved. I often wished that my mother had *succeeded* in her attempts to kill me, for then I would not have had to suffer all the physical, mental, emotional, and sexual abuse.

After I gave my life to Jesus, I would *daily* read my Bible. For the first time in my life, I had *hope*. GOD’S AMAZING GRACE led me to the exact scriptures that I needed. Trusting, believing, and obeying the Bible renewed my mind and healed me, delivered me, and set me free! It has restored my life and my marriage and given me peace and joy.

Genesis 1:26-27 told me that God created me. He created me in His image. From this I saw that God was my *real* Father, that I was not a mistake, and that the one and only true and living God, the Creator of the universe, had created me. This made me special.

Psalm 127:3-5 told me that children are a gift from God, a reward from Him, that children are a blessing from God. *I was not a mistake*. I was a gift from God, a reward, and a blessing! Psalm 139: 13-18 told me that God created me in my mother’s womb, that I am fearfully and wonderfully made, that God’s work in creating me is marvelous, that God saw me before I was born, that every day of my life was written in His book before I was born, and that God’s thoughts towards me are good and more in number than the sand. Wow! Praise God!

Beloved, I hope you see why I love Jesus and the Bible. *Every* life is precious to God: old, young, disabled, healthy, sick, rich, or poor. Every life has value and purpose to God. Beloved, I want to say something to you. If you have killed your child through an abortion or you are thinking of having an abortion, you will get compassionate help if you call your local pregnancy resource center.

— *Janice McBride*

All scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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