

I AM REPENTING TO GLISTENING HOPE

☐ Overcoming real spiritual strongholds

From Steve Backlund's book "Victorious Mindsets"

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"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit"(Romans 15:13).

I remember reading the words "glistening hope" by Francis Frangipane (see The Three Battlegrounds). He was discussing our need to have "glistening hope" in every area of life (and if we don't have this in an aspect of life, then we are believing a lie in that area and are in danger of having a stronghold of the enemy there).

This truth rocked my world. I did not have much hope in my life and certainly not "glistening hope." I was being set up for a great journey into the importance of hope that would change my life.

"We also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope" (Romans 5:3-4). This passage leads us to Christian maturity. First, we "glory" (rejoice) in tribulation. Secondly, we continue (persevere) in this glorying. Third, we grow in Christian character (making good decisions). One would think that this character is the ultimate goal in Christian living, but it isn't.

Our goal is ultimately hope (the confident expectation that good is coming). **Our destination is not good actions, but a way of thinking called hope.** It is the soil that faith and obedience put their roots into. Without hope, there can be little positive change in life.

"Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." Repentance is a change of thinking that leads to a change in actions. It is not a one-time event, but a lifestyle. We will know that our repenting in an area of life is complete when we consistently have glistening hope based on revelations of God's goodness.

The kingdom of God moves forward primarily by what we believe, not by what we do. "Glistening hope" is a kingdom way of thinking that is foundational for having victorious mindsets.