

## Faith and Hope



“LET FAITH AND HOPE  
BE THY LONGING.”  
EDGAR CAYCE  
READING 281-50

When I started my dream journey 20 years ago, I did not realize the potential of dreams. At first it was tempting to give up on dreams since they were bizarre and unintelligible. As I began to understand them, I realized that I needed faith and hope to believe and apply the messages. The Bible says, and Cayce concurs, that God is the source of dreams. Hence believing dream messages is demonstrating faith in God.

Some dreams come to show us what possibilities the future holds. If we believe what is shown to us, no matter what our difficulties are, we can take hope.


After living with an illness for some years, and praying about it, I had a dream in

which I felt the presence of God and Jesus. They said something about my healing and that I should pray with faith. Upon waking I thought of what Jesus said in Matthew 21:22: “And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.” So I prayed as instructed. One night two months later, I woke up with a knowing that I was well and that I should go about as though healed. So I practiced a hopeful attitude, remembering Cayce’s principle: Live as if you expected your prayers to be answered. Two more months passed and I had a dream: *A doctor walked into my room and put some drops of liquid into a small amount of water, and asked me to drink it. I did and asked her what it was. She replied, “Valerian.” Then another doctor walked in and looking at me said, “You ought to take antacid daily.”* Acting on the counsel, I took valerian and antacid. Three weeks later I was almost completely well! This is all the more remarkable because I had tried many other treatments – all to no avail. I understood what Jesus meant when he said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.” (Luke 18:27)

Victor Frankl was a psychiatrist who survived the Nazi concentration camps in Germany. In his book, *Man’s Search for Meaning*, Frankl shares some astute observations of camp life. Despite the tragic conditions they faced, he claimed there were still opportunities for prisoners to have a hopeful attitude. He attributes some deaths to sheer hopelessness, which he calls “the loss of faith in the future and this dangerous giving up.”

In February 1945, a fellow prisoner shared a dream with Frankl: *I have had a strange dream. A voice told me that I could wish for something, that I should only say what I wanted to know, and all my questions would be answered. What do you think I asked? That I would like to know when the war would be over for me. The dream voice answered, “March thirtieth.”*

Frankl says that the man was “full of hope and convinced that the voice in the dream would be right. ...But as the promised day drew nearer, the news that reached the camp sounded that it was unlikely that the war would end soon. The man, losing hope, fell sick on March twenty-ninth, became delirious and lost consciousness. On March thirty-first, he was dead. To all outward appearances, he had died of typhus.”

As we know, the war officially ended in August 1945. Dreams tell us possible outcomes. Free will and other factors determine the exact timing of an event or how precisely it will unfold. If the prisoner had held his faith and had believed that ‘what God has declared he will bring to pass,’ perhaps he would not have lost hope and his life. Paul says in Hebrews 11:1, “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” In my dreams of healing, if I had not believed the dream messages and not prayed with faith, I probably would not have healed. When was my healing supposed to come? When was the war going to end? Who can tell? Ultimately it is not our problems or illnesses that matter, or knowing when exactly they will end – but how we respond to them. What seem to be obstacles are precisely the opportunities that a soul needs for its development. If we respond positively, then we are spiritually growing. Doubts, fears, and hopelessness are brigands lurking in our minds. Faith, patience, and hope are soul attributes, Cayce said, that each and every soul ought to develop. 

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