

Submission Born out of Hope

"Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Saviour, and Christ Jesus our hope." | Timothy 1:1

Paul begins his first letter to Timothy with these words. When Paul encountered Christ, the Savior took the initiative so that the only decision Paul had to make was the submission of his will. People submit because of their hope.

When God sent Ananias to restore Paul's eyesight He said to Ananias regarding Paul, "...for I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."¹ Paul submitted to his calling because of a greater hope than he previously had; pleasing God was more important than temporal recognition and acceptance.

When God destroys one hope He replaces it with another and better hope. God's will is a commandment and vice versa. When Paul said, "Christ our hope," he is saying that he hopes following Christ will be more profitable than any other hope a person can have.