

THE BLESSED HOPE

Titus 2:13

SCRIPTURE READING:

“¹²Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; ¹³Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

The Blessed Hope is the appearing of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He shall appear in all the glory and majesty of His Being. The Blessed Hope of the Lord's return shall be filled with happiness, prosperity, richness, benefits, and the highest good – all the great and glorious benefits imaginable.

The return of Jesus Christ will mean:

- 1) **A Glorious Union** – Christians will see Jesus for the first time and be united with Him forever.
 - “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also” (John 14:3).
- 2) **A Glorious Reunion** – The dead in Christ shall arise and we who live shall be reunited with our loved ones and friends forever.
 - “¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words” (1 Thess 4:17-18).
- 3) **A Glorious Body Transformation** – Christians shall receive new incorruptible and eternal bodies.
 - “⁴² So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: ⁴³ It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: ⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality” (1 Cor 15:42-44, 53).
- 4) **A Glorious Life of Happiness** – Christians shall receive perfect joy and freedom from trials, pain, suffering, evil and death.
 - “Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear” (Matt 13:43).
 - “When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory” (Col 3:4).
 - “And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful” (Rev 21:5).

5) **A Glorious Remaking of the Heavens and Earth** – Christians shall receive a perfect world of love, joy and peace.

- “Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God” (Rom 8:21).
- “¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. ¹¹ Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, ¹² Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Pet 3:10-13).
- “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea” (Rev 21:1).

6) **A Glorious Reward** – Christians will receive a Crown of righteousness (2 Tim 4:8), a Crown of Life (James 1:12), and a Crown of Glory (1 Pet 5:4).

- “Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing” (2 Tim 4:8).
- “Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him” (James 1:12).
- “And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away” (1 Pet 5:4).

7) **An Eternity of Ruling and Reigning** – Christians shall receive the position and responsibility of serving Christ throughout all eternity.

- “⁵ And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever. ¹² And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be” (Rev 22:5, 12).

8) **A Glorious Dwelling Place and Mansion** - Jesus left the earth and went to heaven to prepare a place for his disciples which includes us. Jesus promises that he will return to take us to our heavenly home. The greatest blessing, however, is not just getting to heaven; it's getting to be with the Lord forever.

- “² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also” (John 14:2-3).

MEMORY VERSE:

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him” (1 Cor 2:9).

CONCLUSION:

- A. Christians should always be expecting the return of Jesus Christ and living like those who will see Him face-to-face.**
- B. Christians are commanded to “live soberly, righteously, and godly” while awaiting the return of Jesus Christ (Titus 2:12).**
- C. Are you anticipating the return of Christ during your lifetime? Are you living as though Christ may return at any moment? Are you listening for the “shout” (1 Thess 4:16)? Are you looking forward to “new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Pet 3:13).**
- D. ABC’s of Salvation**
- **A – Admit** that you’re a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
 - **B – Believe** that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
 - **C – Confess**/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)

SOURCE:

- The Preacher’s Outline and Sermon Bible
- Believer’s Bible Commentary

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“...the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).