

## LOOKING FOR THE BLESSED HOPE

(Part 9)

Titus 2:11-13

*For the grace of God that **brings salvation** has appeared [shone] to all men, (PAST)*

*<sup>12</sup>Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and **godly in the present age**, (PRESENT)*

*<sup>13</sup>Looking for **the blessed hope** and [namely] glorious appearing (**epiphaneian**) of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ. (FUTURE)*

WE SEE IN THESE 3 VERSES THE 3 STAGES OF FULL SALVATION  
WE SEE IN VERSE 11 God has brought to us salvation by Grace.  
WE SEE IN VERSE 12 God is teaching us how to experience our salvation by Grace.  
WE SEE IN VERSE 13 God will complete our salvation by the revealing of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

GOD HAS COVERED US IN EVERY WAY ... PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE  
**HE'S MADE PROVISION FOR OUR PAST WITH JUSTIFICATION ...**  
**HE'S PROVIDING FOR OUR PRESENT WITH SANCTIFICATION ...**  
**HE WILL PROVIDE FOR OUR FUTURE WITH GLORIFICATION ...**

THIS SALVATION IS A COMPLETE SALVATION THAT DOESN'T STOP WHEN WE FIRST BELIEVE ... BUT GOES ON INTO TRANSFORMATION & THEN GLORIFICATION WHEN WE WILL BE LIKE HIM.

SLIDE

- **SPIRITUALLY WE WERE CHANGED BY REGENERATION**
- **PHYSICALLY/EMOTIONALLY WE ARE BEING CHANGED BY TRANSFORMATION**
- **FINALLY, WE WILL BE CHANGED COMPLETELY (physically, mentally and emotionally) BY GLORIFICATION**

**THIS IS THE WHOLE GOSPEL & THE WHOLE GOSPEL MUST INCLUDE ... 'THE BLESSED HOPE'.**

**THE BLESSED HOPE *IS* THE APPEARING OF THE GLORIOUS, RISEN SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.**

➤ **THIS DOESN'T SAY ... LOOKING FOR THE APPEARING OF THE ANTICHRIST**

**YET IF YOU LISTEN TO MANY CHRISTIANS ... YOU'D THINK THAT IS WHAT IT SAID ...**

*I have had countless messages in my inbox telling me about one conspiracy theory after another ... from 5G gaining control of our minds ... to a new COVID-19 vaccine with a microchip in it ...*

**BUT INTERESTINGLY ... NOT ONE TELLING ME ABOUT THIS BLESSED HOPE ... YET WE READ ... [encourage] one another with these words.**

SLIDE

## 1 Thessalonians 4:18

*Therefore comfort [encourage] one another with these words.*

**'these words' ARE WHAT TITUS 2 SAYS ... THAT JESUS IS SOON TO APPEAR. THESE CONSPIRACY THEORIES DO NOT ENCOURAGE OR COMFORT YOU. They leave you feeling discouraged ... uptight ... and fearful ...**

*Helen ministered to someone the other day who had become fearful trying to figure out the chronology of these end time events. She was able to say, 'We should be looking for Jesus return and He will save us from all these troubles'. She quoted the following verse:*

**Luke 21:28** SLIDE

*Now when these things begin to happen, **look up and lift up your heads**, because your redemption draws near.*

### **WE WILL BE TAKEN OUT OF THE VERY PRESENCE OF SIN**

- Christ's death **has** released you from the penalty of sin
- Christ's life in you **is** keeping you daily from the power of sin
- **Christ's return will finally free you from the presence of sin**

## 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 SLIDE

*For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.<sup>17</sup> Then [after this] we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore comfort [encourage] one another with these words.*

These words of His Appearing actually Encourage us ...

***THIS IS WHAT WE SHOULD BE SHARING WITH ONE ANOTHER ...***

THERE IS **HOWEVER** FAR MORE TO THE APPEARING OF JESUS THAN JUST TAKING US AWAY ...

### ➤ **THIS IS CALLED, THE BLESSED 'HOPE'** **NOT THE BLESSED RESCUE**

*FOR MANY YEARS I HEARD ABOUT THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS IN THE CONTEXT OF HIM COMING BACK **TO RESCUE US FROM THIS WORLD OF EVIL** This became my prayer especially when I was feeling insecure as a Christian ... mainly because no one taught me who I was In Christ! We used to quote the following scripture ...*

**Revelation 22:20** KJV

*He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. **Even so, come, Lord Jesus.***

*'Come Lord Jesus' ... Get me outta here because things have got so bad ...*

### **BUT THIS IS CALLED THE BLESSED '*HOPE*'**

This means something **AMAZING MAGNIFICENT & MARVELLOUS** is about to happen.

Not only will Jesus rescue us from evil; He is going **to bring us into something** that surpasses anything that this world could ever offer at its best – the fulfilment of our salvation. **THIS IS THE OBJECT OF OUR HOPE ...**

### **ABOUT THIS HOPE**

**GOD HAS PUT THIS 'BLESSED HOPE' IN OUR HEARTS SO WE INHERENTLY & INTRINSICALLY HOPE WITH EXPECTATION & EXCITEMENT FOR THE APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST**

**1 Peter 1:3-6** English Standard Version **SLIDE**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be **born again to [eis into] a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are **being guarded** through faith **for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.** <sup>6</sup> **In this you rejoice,** though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials.*

***THE SUBSTANCE OF ETERNAL HOPE IS IN EVERY BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER & EVERY BELIEVER HAS BEEN BORN AGAIN INTO A LIVING ... ETERNAL ... BREATHING HOPE***

***If we learn to live out of who we are in Christ ...  
We won't be able to not hope for this 'Blessed Hope' ...***

***Everything may be falling apart around you ... and whereas you should be depressed and despairing ... your heart 'REJOICES IN HOPE'.***

***Somebody says, 'What are you so happy about?'***

***You say ... 'God's got everything in control ... and one day soon Jesus is coming back to take me to be with Him ...'***

***YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ALL THE DETAILS BUT YOU KNOW ITS GONNA BE MAGNIFICENT & GLORIOUS***

***We will always be rejoicing in this hope ...  
Even though we don't know all the details***

*I still remember my childhood days waiting for the coming of Christmas ...*

When we tap this hope in us we will live with **wide-eyed expectation and excitement ...**

**1 Peter 3:15** Good News Translation

*But have reverence for Christ in your hearts, and honour him as Lord. Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain **the hope you have in you** ...*

GOD'S HOPE IS ETERNAL ... ALIVE & BREATHING ... INDESTRUCTIBLE **IN YOU.**

**WHAT IS SO AMAZING, MAGNIFICENT & MARVELLOUS THAT WE WAIT FOR?**  
**WHAT CAUSES US TO WALK AROUND WITH WIDE-EYED EXPECTATION?**

➤ **OUR BODY WILL BE INSTANTLY CHANGED  
TO BE LIKE CHRIST'S BODY**

**Philippians 3:20-21** SLIDE

*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also **eagerly wait** for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

*<sup>21</sup>Who will **transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body,** according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.*

**1 Corinthians 15:52-53** SLIDE

***In a moment,** in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and **we shall be changed.** <sup>53</sup>For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

**an instant** (atomō)

(lit: that cannot be cut), an indivisible part of time, a moment. Uncut, i.e. indivisible.

MORE THAN THE THRILL OF THE RIDE ...

➤ **WE WILL BE INSTANTLY GLORIFIED WITH JESUS**

**Colossians 3:4** SLIDE

*When Christ who is our life appears, then **you also will appear with Him in glory.***

**1 John 3:2-3**

*Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him,** for we shall see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who has **this hope in Him** purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

**Psalms 17:15**

*As for me, I will see **Your face** in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.*

**HIS FACE IS HIS GLORY ...**

**1 Corinthians 13:12** (KJV, NKJV, ABPE)

*... Now I know in part ... but then face to face ... I will know ... as I am known.*

## **NOW THE ADVENTURE REALLY BEGINS**

### **➤ WE WILL REIGN WITH JESUS OVER ALL EVIL**

**AFTER THIS ... CHRIST WILL TAKE UP HIS PHYSICAL REIGN UPON THE EARTH  
& WE WITH HIM**

#### **Hebrews 2:8**

*You have put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. **But now we do not yet see all things put under him.***

**BUT ON THAT DAY JESUS WILL REIGN ... ACTUALLY ... PHYSICALLY ...**

#### **Revelation 11:15** SLIDE

*Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "**The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!**"*

#### **Daniel 2:44** BSB, CSB

*In the days of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, and this kingdom will not be left to another people. It will shatter all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, but will itself stand forever.*

#### **Daniel 7:14** BSB, CSB

*And He was given dominion, glory, and kingship, so that ... every people, nation, and language should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will not [never] be destroyed.*

#### **Revelation 19:6** Berean Study Bible

*And I heard a sound like the roar of a great multitude, like the rushing of many waters, and like a mighty rumbling of thunder, crying out: "**Hallelujah! For our Lord God, the Almighty, reigns**".*

**SATAN WILL BE CAST DOWN AND EXPOSED ... EVIL WILL CEASE ...**

**THE WORLD HAS NEVER EVER KNOWN WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE FREE FROM  
SATANIC OPPRESSION ... FROM DESTRUCTIVE DOMINATION ...**

People have been oppressed ... dominated ... condemned ... accused ...

**Every Christian has had a satanic assignment against them since they were born again** ... a campaign of deception and outright lies to undermine our faith in Christ and cause us to doubt who we are ...

*We have battled it all our lives ... oftentimes crying out to God for deliverance ...*

**BUT ON THAT DAY SATAN SHALL NO LONGER ... IN ANY WAY ... HAVE DOMINION  
OVER ANY PART OF YOU -**

**BECAUSE YOU WILL BE COMPLETELY FREE FROM HIS DISEASE ... SPIRIT, SOUL &  
BODY**

**Isaiah 14:16-17** NLT

*Everyone there will stare at you and ask, 'Can this be the one who shook the earth and made the kingdoms of the world tremble?*

*<sup>17</sup>Is this the one who destroyed the world and made it into a wasteland? Is this the king who demolished the world's greatest cities and had no mercy on his prisoners?'*

➤ **WE WILL REIGN WITH JESUS OVER ALL OUR OPPRESSORS**

**Revelation 5:10**

*And have made us kings and priests unto our God;*

***And we shall reign on the earth.***

**Daniel 7:27** Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

*Then the sovereignty, dominion, and greatness of the kingdoms under all of heaven will be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will serve and obey Him.*

**That which ruled over you ... that which oppressed you ...**

**that which brought you to your knees ...**

**Will actually come and bow at your feet.**

**You will be exalted with the Lord Jesus ... in His image ... and placed in His position ...**

**Isaiah 60:14**

*Also the sons of those who afflicted you shall come bowing to you, and all those who despised you shall fall prostrate at the soles of your feet; and they shall call you The City of the LORD, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.*

**1 Corinthians 6:1-2**

*Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? <sup>2</sup> **Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?** ...*

**Revelation 21:5-7** **SLIDE**

*Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." <sup>6</sup> And He said to me, "**It is done!** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.*

*<sup>7</sup> He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.*

From go to woe ... God has got this covered ...

## SUPPLIMENTARY

WE WILL ESCAPE THE WRATH OF THE LAMB ... THE JUDGEMENT OF THIS WORLD

[1 Thessalonians 1:10](#) Berean Study Bible

*And to await His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead--**Jesus our deliverer from the coming wrath.***