

# GROANING SAINTS

Romans 8:12-25

Luke 12:35-48

Hebrews 6:17-20



16 August 2020

## Time to Watch the Moon Again!

- GOD gave the moon as a **sign**. (Genesis 1:14)
- GOD gave the *new* moon as a shadow. (Colossians 2:16-17)
- What is a shadow?
- When the “sun” is at its highest point there is no more shadow. (Malachi 4:2)
- **We** do not focus on the shadow when we have the Object! The shadow is **gone!** (1 Corinthians 1:22-23)
- What can the new moon in Scripture teach us? (Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
  - Rosh Chodesh (the beginning of each moon).
    - *Chodesh* comes from *chadesh*: to be new; to renew; to make new.
    - מולד – molad - “birth” — *new birth* — John 3:3, 5, 7
    - Two days of darkness, then a sliver of light. – (Isaiah 9:2; 42:6-9; 60:1-3; Luke 1:78-79; Col. 1:13; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Cor. 4:4-6)
- The Seventh New Moon
  - A look at GOD’s timetable. (See handout.)
    - Beginning of the fall feasts of the Lord.
  - The end of the summer.
  - The end of the harvest. (Jeremiah 8:20)
  - Marked by the blowing of trumpets. (Lev 23:24; Num. 29:1; Numbers 10:1-10; Psalm 81:3)
  - Marks the end of GOD’s calendar – GOD’s dealing with men.
  - From birth to completion – (Jeremiah 31:35-37; Philippians 1:6)

## Are You Busy and Watching? (Luke 12:35-48)

- (v. 35) BE READY! BE PREPARED!
- (v. 37) **BLESSED** are those who are found **watching!** (NASB: “on the alert”)

- “to watch” is γρηγορεῖω {gray-gor-yoo'-o} and means “to expect”; “to observe”; “to guard”; “to watch”.  
Seriousness of the word: “give strict attention to, be cautious, active”; “to take heed lest through remission and indolence some destructive calamity **suddenly** over take one”.  
→ They have a place at the marriage feast of the Lamb! (Rev 19:9)
- (vv. 38-40) This is a constant watching!
- (v. 42) Faithful and wise stewards!
- (v. 43) **BLESSED** is that **servant** whom his master finds **doing!** (PRESENT TENSE; ACTIVE VOICE; PARTICIPLE MOOD)
- (v. 44) The REWARD.
- (vv. 45-48) The consequences of NOT WATCHING:
  - (v. 46) Cut in two!
  - (v. 46) Appointed with **unbelievers!**
  - (v. 47) Beaten with **many** stripes.
  - (v. 48) MUCH is expected of those who have been given much!
- **BUT** there is a “**crown of righteousness**” for those who “long” for His appearing. (2 Timothy 4:8)

## Christians Groan Hoping (Romans 8:12-25)

- All do not have HOPE – 1 Thessalonians 4:13; Ephesians 2:12
- Saints are called to a REAL HOPE! To a hope that does not disappoint! (Romans 5:5; 2 Thessalonians 2:16)
- This hope is laid up and reserved for us in heaven. (Colossians 1:5; 1 Peter 1:3-5)
- This hope cause us to endure even the severest trials. (1 Thess 1:3; Hebrews 6:10-12)
- (Romans 8:15) **Only those who have been “born-again”** are the children of God, who begat them according to His own will (John 1:13; James 1:18).
  - If you are not born-again you will never see heaven! (John 3:1-8)
  - ALL those who are born-again . . .
    - ① Overcome the world. (1 John 5:4)
    - ② Purify themselves just as He, Christ, is pure. (1 John 3:3)
    - ③ Love their brothers and sisters just as Christ loves them. (1 John 5:1-2; 3:13-14; 22-24; 4:21; John 13:34-35; 15:17)
- (Romans 8:12-25) Christians are children of God destined to spend

eternity in heaven with God.

- (vv. 12-13a) Christians do not live according to the flesh – the consequence is eternal death.
- (vv. 13b-14) Christians live according to the Spirit. **NOTE:** Those who are **led** (to be led is to follow) by the Spirit are the children of God. (John 10:27-29; Galatians 5:16-26)
- (vv. 15-16) Christians desire to be fully pleasing to the Father. (Colossians 1:9-11; 1 John 3:22; Hebrews 13:21; Col 3:20)
- (vv. 17-18) Children are HEIRS of God and co-heirs with Christ.
  - Suffering is a part of being Christian. (Philippians 1:29; Acts 14:22; John 15:18-20; 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 4:3, 12-16, 19; Romans 5:3; James 1:2; 1 Thessalonians 3:4)
  - (v. 19) What awaits us is our HOPE! And this hope compares nothing to what we are suffering today!
- (vv. 19-22) ALL of creation eagerly awaits the Christian's hope.
- (vv. 23-24) CHRISTIANS GROAN - EAGERLY AWAITING THE REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY! (Philippians 3:20-21; Hebrews 9:28; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 4:16-18; 1 Corinthians 1:7; 2 Peter 3:12-14)
- (v. 25) This hope we cling to and eagerly wait for with all perseverance. (Romans 8:24-25; Hebrews 10:23; 1 John 3:2-3)

### A Believer's Hope Is a SURE Hope (Hebrews 6:17-20)

- (vv. 17-18) Our hope is based on God's Word. BUT God also confirmed His promise with an OATH!
  - ★ He also sealed us with Holy Spirit as a GUARANTEE!
- (v. 19) Our hope is like an ANCHOR both SURE and STEADFAST already in the Holy of Holies in heaven – that anchor is Christ.
- (v. 20) That anchor is Christ our High Priest who lives continually to make intercession for us to ensure that we are saved to the uttermost!
  - ★ He is our forerunner who finished the race for us!
  - ★ He is our Advocate who defends us in heaven when we sin! (1 John 2:1)

### Are You Watching and Groan?

### What Will Watching the Moon Teach Us?

- ① It will cause us to ask, "Have I truly been born again?" (John 3:1-8)
- ② It will remind us that we have been called out darkness into marvelous light, because **GOD shined HIS light on us!** (1 Cor 4:4-6; 1 Peter 2:9)
- ③ It will remind us that GOD has a plan and soon that plan will end. Am I prepared? (Amos 4:12)
- ④ It will remind us that we must be *busy* in the harvest. (*doing*) (Luke 12:37-43)
  - Being used by GOD to share the Good News to others.
  - Bearing *much fruit* for the glory of God! (John 15:8)
- ⑤ It will remind us that we are to be **seriously watching!**
  - Watching for our Lord's soon return for His own. (Philippians 3:20-21; Hebrews 9:28)
  - Watching and being sober about our lives. (Titus 2:11-14)
- ⑥ It will teach us that we are **signs** for others to see. (Matthew 5:16)
- ⑦ It will remind us that there is no light in ourselves. We are to reflect the light of "**the Sun of Righteousness.**" (Malachi 4:2)
- ⑧ It will remind us that we fall short of GOD's glory. The moon only reflects about 7% of the light shone on it.
- ⑨ Our focus must be on the OBJECT and not the SHADOW. (Colossians 2:16-17)