



05 September 2021

Feast of Trumpets

EAGERLY AWAITING with PERSEVERANCE

1 Corinthians 15:35-58; 1 Peter 1:1-9

Romans 8:18-30; Philippians 3:12-21

WATCHING; LISTENING!

- In religion, many are not concerned about the coming of Christ.
- BUT people in a real, genuine **relationship** groan to be with the one they love.

Why Study the Feasts of the LORD?

- (Romans 15:4) Everything that was written down was written **and** preserved for **our** (believers) **learning**.
→ The Scriptures teach us how to live the Christian life.
- (2 Timothy 3:16-17) The Scriptures, which are given to us by God Himself, (**MEDITATE**) are **profitable** for . . .
 - ① DOCTRINE ② REPROOF ③ CORRECTION
 - ④ INSTRUCTION in RIGHTEOUSNESS. ⑤ EQUIPPING US.
- ★ What have you learned, through your studies of Scriptures, from the feasts of the LORD?
- (Romans 15:4) They, the Scriptures, were written that **we** through the **patience** (literally - endurance, perseverance, constancy) and **comfort** of the Scriptures we might have **hope**. What is our hope?
- (1 Peter 3:15) We are commanded, "Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts and be ready *always* to give an *answer (apologia* - a reasoned, thought out answer) for the hope that is in you." What answer do you give?
- (Colossians 1:5) There is a hope that is laid up in heaven for believers. What is that hope?

Self-Evaluation

- Are you abiding in faith, hope, and love? (1 Corinthians 13:13)

• How is your faith doing?

- Is your faith "growing exceedingly"? (2 Thessalonians 1:3)
- Are you adding to your faith? (2 Peter 1:5-8)
- Is your faith a faith that is an example for others to follow or imitate? (1 Timothy 4:12)
- Are you pursuing faith? (1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:22)

• How is your love doing?

- Has your love grown cold? (Matthew 24:12) (**MEDITATE**)
- Can others **see** your love for **all** the saints? (Eph 1:15; Col 1:4)
- Do you love **just as** Christ loves? (John 13:34-35; Ephesians 5:2)
- Do others remember your **labors** of love? (1 Thess 1:3; Heb 6:10)
- Is your love increasing and abounding toward all your brothers and sisters? (1 Thessalonians 3:12)
- Are you pursuing love? (1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:22)
- Can you tell others to imitate your love? (2 Timothy 3:10)

• How is your hope?

- Does your hope grow in tribulations/troubles or does it wane? (Romans 5:3-4)
- Does your hope sustain/grow your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all the saints? (Colossians 1:4-5)
- Are you groaning because of your hope? (Romans 8:23-25)

What Is HOPE?

- (1 Peter 1:3) ". . . according to His **abundant** mercy has **begotten** us again to **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead . . ." **BUT**, we ask, what is this hope?
- First, we ask, what is FAITH?
- (Hebrews 11:1) "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." What are these things?
- (Hebrews 10:23) "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering . . ." What is our confession of hope?
- What is *biblical* hope?
 - Worldly hope: "I hope something happens!"
 - Biblical hope: A sure, certain, confident expectation.
 - ★ Biblical hope never disappoints, because it is SURE. (Romans 5:5-11) **Because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit . . .**
- A Christian's hope is a PERSON **and** THINGS!! Can you give a reasoned answer for the hope in you.
 - ☆ **A PERSON** - Jesus Christ our Lord.
 - ★ (Titus 2:11-14) We look eagerly for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

- ★ (Colossians 2:17) Christ **in** us, the hope of glory!!
- ★ (1 Timothy 1:1) The Lord Jesus Christ, our hope.
- ★ (Hebrews 6:18-19) Christ is our **anchor** behind the veil, therefore our hope is sure and steadfast!
- ☆ “**THINGS**” . . .

Chapter of HOPE (1 Corinthians 15)

- (1 Corinthians 13) The chapter of LOVE.
- (Hebrews 11) The chapter of FAITH.
- (1 Corinthians 15) The chapter of the Christian's HOPE.
- (Acts 23:6; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) The Christian's hope is in the resurrection of the dead!
- (1 Corinthians 15:42-44) Our Glorified Bodies
 - ❶ Our natural body will be buried in **corruption** but it will be raised in **incorruption**.
 - ★ Our natural bodies are bodies that **are** perishing!
 - ★ “All flesh is grass . . . the grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever.” (Isaiah 40:6-8; 1 Peter 1:24; Psalm 102:11; 103:15-16)
 - ★ “For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.” (James 4:14; Job 7:6-7; 9:25-26; 14:1-2; Psalm 39:5; 90:5-7; Isaiah 38:12; 1 John 2:17)
 - ☆ **BUT** when we are resurrected there will be no more pain, no more decay, no more death! (Revelation 21:1-8)
 - ❷ Our natural body will be buried in **dishonor**, but it will be raised in **glory** and **honor**.
 - ★ We dishonor God by not using our bodies and its members as “instruments of righteousness to God”. (Romans 6:13)
 - ☆ **BUT** when we are resurrected we will be resurrected with bodies that **cannot** sin! All that we do will be to bring glory to our Creator! **See John 17:22**
 - ❸ Our natural body will be buried in **weakness**, but it will be raised in **power**.
 - ★ We are **weak** physically and spiritually because of sin.
 - ★ Our natural bodies are likened to “**tents**” and our resurrected bodies to “**buildings**”. (2 Cor 5:1, 4; 2 Peter 1:13-14)
 - ☆ **BUT** when we are resurrected we will no longer say, “the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.” (Matthew 26:41)
 - ☆ Our resurrected bodies will be suited for any task in heaven.
 - ❹ Our natural body will be buried as a **natural** one, but it will be raised a **spiritual** one.
 - ☆ Our resurrected bodies will be “**like**” the angels . . . Luke 20:34-36)
 - ☆ They will be suited for heaven.

- ❺ In our natural body we bear the image of the first man, Adam, but we will be raised in the image of the second man, Christ!
 - (Romans 8:29) God **predestined** that ALL those whom He chose to be His people will be conformed into the image of His Son. The transformation begins at **new birth** and will be completed at the **resurrection**.
 - (1 John 3:2) We will be **like** Him – the second Adam!
- ★ All this happens at the final trumpet and in a twinkling of an eye!

MORE Things! An Inheritance! (1 Peter 1:4)

- ☆ Christians are **heirs** God and co-heirs with Christ. (Romans 8:16-17)
- ☆ Just some of the things we inherit:
 - ❶ A city built by God. (Hebrews 11:13-16) Our homeland! Our Fatherland!
 - ❷ A city with many mansions prepared for us by our Bridegroom, Christ Jesus. (John 14:1-6)
 - ❸ A feast/banquet! (Luke 12:37; Revelation 19:7-9)
 - ❹ A place of no more pain, sorrow, death, crying, etc. (Rev 21:3-5)
 - ❺ To sit with Christ and reign with Him. (Rev 3:21; 1 Cor 6:3; Matt 25:21,23)
 - ❻ A place where there is no more temptation and sin! (Rev. 21:27; Isaiah 35:8; 52:1; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:5)
 - ❼ Fullness of joy; pleasures forevermore! (Psalm 16:10-11)
 - ❽ Glory - the same glory as Christ! (John 17:5, 22, 24; 1 Peter 5:10)
 - ❾ God Himself!!! (Psalm 73:25-26)

Are You Groaning for This Hope?

- OR are you a lover of this world? (1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4; John 15:19)

What Is the Christian's Response to This Hope?

- (Ephesians 2:12) They are **DIFFERENT!** They are a sure and confident hope that takes them beyond this world and the grave!
- (Luke 12:37) They carefully **WATCH!**
- (Romans 8:23-25) They **GROAN!**
- (Philippians 3:20-21) They **EAGERLY AWAIT** Christ and their transformation!
- (Hebrews 9:28) They **EAGERLY AWAIT** their final salvation.
- (Romans 12:12) They **REJOICE!** (Romans 5:2-3; Proverbs 10:28)
- (1 Corinthians 15:58) They **LABOR!**
 - They are **zealous** for good works. (Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:14)
- (Jeremiah 17:5-7) They **TRUST** in the LORD and flourish.
- (Romans 8:23-25) They **PERSEVERE to the END.**
- (1 John 3:1-3) They **ALL PURIFY** themselves just as He is pure. (2 Peter 3:14)

ARE YOUR GROANING?