

Sunday, October 6, 2019—Titus 2:13 The Glorious Appearing

Introduction/Review

- Our blessed hope is related to “*the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.*” So, what are we as believers looking forward to? The glorious appearing of Jesus Christ.
 - II Timothy 1:9-10—Jesus Christ appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus.
 - Titus 2:11—the grace of God that brought salvation hath already appeared to all men.
 - I Timothy 6:14
 - Titus 2:13—this appearing of Christ lies in the future and comprises our hope as believers this is the one, we are supposed to “looking for.” The is the appearing that serves as our hope and stay in this present world.

Which Appearing of Christ is This?

- Acts 1:9-12—their focus here was not supposed to be on heavenly things but on earthly things?
- Philippians 3:20—Paul tells the Philippians the exact opposite from what the angels told the 11 Apostles in Acts 1. He tells us that our conversation is in heaven and we are supposed to be looking toward heaven for his return.
- Joel 2:1-2, 11, 30-32—the 11 had been instructed about the signs that would precede Christ’s return to earth in glory to establish his kingdom.
- Matthew 24:3—the Apostles were instructed to look up only after they had witnessed the specific signs Christ predicted would precede his second coming.
 - Matthew 24:4-8—outlines the “beginning of sorrows”
 - Matthew 24:15—deals with what will happen in the midst of the 70th week of Daniel.
 - Daniel 9:27—the abomination of desolation occurs in the middle of the 70th week.
 - Matthew 24:29-31—explains what will occur “immediately after the tribulation of those days.”
- Luke 21:25-28—the Apostles were instructed to look up only after they had witnessed the specific signs Christ predicted would precede his second coming.
- Acts 1:11—they don’t need to be “gazing up into heaven” until they see the prophetic sings that precede the Lord’s coming.
- Acts 2:14-21—the last day signs were beginning to come to past in Acts 2.

- Acts 3:19-20—this appearing of Christ is back to earth to vanquish his enemies and establish his kingdom on earth.
- Revelation 19—these verses depict the coming of Christ according to prophecy to establish his kingdom on earth with Israel as the head nation of the earth.
- Zechariah 14:1-4—when the Lord returns it will be to the mount of Olives to fulfill the prophetic program and execute judgment and justice upon his enemies. In that day the Lord will return to the mount of Olives the very place that ascended from in Acts 1.

The Secret Nature of Our Blessed Hope

- I Thessalonians 4:13-18—records the appearing of Christ that constituted the blessed hope of the believer. Notice the following details
 - Verse 13—believers can have hope because of the event Paul is describing here.
 - Verse 14—those who believe the gospel but have died God will bring with Him at this event.
 - Verse 15—believers that are still alive when this event occurs will not prevent or hamper those who have died from participating in this event.
 - Verse 16—Jesus Christ himself will appear in heaven accompanied by the shout of the archangel and the sounding of the trump of God resulting in the resurrection of dead believers.
 - Verse 17—“then” after the resurrection of the dead in Christ we who are alive and remain will be caught up (raptured) to meet the Lord in the air.
 - Acts 8:39—“caught away”
 - II Corinthians 12:2-4—“caught up”
 - Verse 18—the teaching of this event is supposed to bring comfort to believers.
- This is not the same event as when Jesus Christ comes back bodily to the Mount of Olives from whence, he ascended in Acts 1.
- The Apostle Paul states many times that the body of Christ was a mystery not made known or revealed to the prophets in time past.
 - Romans 16:25
 - Ephesians 3
 - Colossians 1:25-27

- I Corinthians 15:51—Paul says that he is making known a mystery or something not previously made known. Not every member of the body of Christ is going to die before the current dispensation of Grace has run its course but all members will be changed.
- Paul already told us in I Thessalonians 4:13-18 that not every believer would sleep or die before Christ appeared in heaven to catch away his church.
- The only suitable way for this unprophecied age to end is through a perniciously unprophecied appearing of Christ.

The Blessed Nature of Our Hope

- I Corinthians 15:52—when the last trump sounds the dead shall be raised incorruptible and we (those who are alive and remain) will be changed.
- I Corinthians 15:53-54—it is here that we will receive our gloried resurrection body that is fashioned like the glorified body of Jesus Christ.
- Philippians 3:20-21—we look for Christ to appear from heaven again because when he does, we will escape the confines of this corruptible sin ridden flesh and receive a body “fashioned like unto his glorious body.”
- Ephesians 1:7—we currently possess the total and complete redemption from sin and its penalty.
- Ephesians 4:30—if our inner man has already been redeemed from sin what is left to redeem? Our outward man.
- Ephesians 1:13-14
- Romans 8:23-25—the reasons the next appearing of Christ is such a blessed hope is because it is when believers will finally be freed from the bondage of corruption and our bodies will be redeemed.
- Romans 5:3-5—our experience works to produce hope.

Concluding Remarks

- Titus 2:13—we need to have the same childlike anticipation and expectation for this event as we do for the earthly temporal things we look forward to here on earth.