

There is ALWAYS HOPE ~ Romans 8:31-39

→**Scripture Reading-** Isaiah 45:5-7, Rom. 8:31-32, 37

God is STILL GOD ~ Isaiah 45:5-7

[5] I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from ME there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, [6] so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is NONE besides ME. I am the LORD, and there is no other. [7] I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, DO ALL these things.

→God is NOT worried about His Reputation

2 Peter 3:9-10 (NIV) The Lord is NOT SLOW in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is PATIENT with you, not wanting anyone to PERISH, but everyone to come to repentance.

[10] But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

→God's Timing is PERFECT

The Church is STILL PRECIOUS ~ Titus 2:11-14

[11] For the grace of God that brings salvation has APPEARED to all men. [12] It teaches us to say NO to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, [13] while we wait for the BLESSED HOPE - the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, [14] who GAVE Himself for us to REDEEM us from all wickedness and to PURIFY for Himself a PEOPLE that are HIS very own, eager to do what is good.

Jesus GAVE Himself...

- to REDEEM us FROM all Wickedness
- to PURIFY us FOR Himself
- so we would be EAGER to do GOOD

Our MISSION is Still CLEAR ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

[17] Therefore, if anyone is IN Christ, he is a NEW CREATION; the old has gone, the new has come! [18] All this is from God, who RECONCILED us to Himself through Christ and GAVE US the ministry of reconciliation: [19] that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And HE has COMMITTED to US the MESSAGE of RECONCILIATION. [20] We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his APPEAL through us. We IMPLORE you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Paul tells us...

- we ARE a NEW Creation
- we HAVE a ministry of RECONCILIATION
- we ARE AMBASSADORS for Christ
- we IMPLORE people to come to Christ

HEAVEN is Still our HOME ~ 1 Peter 2:11-12

[11] Dear friends, I urge you, as ALIENS and STRANGERS in the world, to ABSTAIN from sinful desires, which WAR against your soul. [12] Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God...

We are...

- ALIENS - we live in a foreign land
- STRANGERS - foreigners, temporary residents

ABSTAIN from- keep away from worldly desires

2 Timothy 4:6-8 (NIV) I have FOUGHT the good FIGHT, I have FINISHED the race, I have KEPT the faith. [8] Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day - and not only to me, but also to ALL who have LONGED for HIS appearing.

Our VICTORY is Still CERTAIN ~ Romans 8.31-38

[31] What, then, shall we say in RESPONSE to this? If God is FOR US, who can be AGAINST us?

[32] He who did NOT SPARE HIS own Son, but gave HIM UP for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things? [33] Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who JUSTIFIES. [34] Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died - more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also INTERCEDING for us.

[35] Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall TROUBLE or HARDSHIP or PERSECUTION or FAMINE or NAKEDNESS or DANGER OR SWORD? [36] As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

[37] No, in ALL these things we are MORE than CONQUERORS through HIM who loved us.

[38] For I am convinced that neither DEATH nor LIFE, neither ANGELS nor DEMONS, neither the PRESENT nor the FUTURE, nor ANY POWERS, [39] neither HEIGHT nor DEPTH, nor ANYTHING ELSE in all creation, will be able to SEPARATE us from the love of God that is IN Christ Jesus our Lord.

→NOTHING can Separate me FROM the Love of Jesus

TAKE AWAY??

Romans 8:35-39 (JBP) Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble, pain or persecution? Can lack of clothes and food, danger to life and limb, the threat of force of arms? Indeed some of us know the truth of the ancient text: 'For your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter'. No, in all these things we win an overwhelming victory through him who has proved his love for us. I have become absolutely convinced that neither death nor life, neither messenger of Heaven nor monarch of earth, neither what happens today nor what may happen tomorrow, neither a power from on high nor a power from below, nor anything else in God's whole world has any power to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord!

There is a hope that lifts my weary head, A consolation strong against despair,
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit, I find the Savior there
Through present sufferings, future's fear, He whispers 'courage' in my ear.
For I am safe in everlasting arms, And He will lead me home.