

There is ALWAYS HOPE ~ Isaiah 45:5-7

→ Scripture Reading- Isaiah 45:5-7

There is HOPE because God IS SOVEREIGN ~ 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.

2 Peter 3:9 (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.

The Church IS 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

Heaven IS 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 - foreigners
- STRANGERS - exiles

ABSTAIN from- keep away from worldly desires

This world is NOT my Home I'm just a passing through -
My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue -
The angels beckon me from heaven's open door -
and I can't feel at home in this world anymore.

NOTHING can Ever SEPARATE us from God ~ Romans 8.35-38

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.

How can we be MORE than Conquerors?

When we realize even DEATH has NO power over 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.

TAKE AWAY??

What is our HOPE in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong

Who holds our days within His hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand.

O sing hallelujah -

Our HOPE springs eternal - O sing hallelujah

Now and ever WE CONFESS

Christ our HOPE in Life and Death

What truth can calm the troubled soul?

God is good, God is good

Where is His grace and goodness known?

In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us night

Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, what will we sing?

"Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"

And what reward will heaven bring?

Everlasting life with Him

There we will rise to meet the Lord -

Then sin and death will be destroyed

And we will feast in endless joy -

When Christ is ours forevermore