

REJOICE, OUR FUTURE IS GLORIOUS!

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

The purpose of the book of Revelation is for people to read, hear, and heed (obey) the things being said as “the time is near”. Our future is glorious because Jesus is coming again. When Jesus comes, He comes as King of kings and Lord of lords, restoring and renewing everything, and bringing with Himself rewards for those who are faithful and are in Christ.

JESUS WILL REIGN AS KING OF KINGS

A major portion of Revelation is about tribulations. The seven seals and trumpets (Revelation 6:1-17, and 8:1-5) declare the horrors that are to come, while the seven bowls (Revelation 16:1-21), declares the painful hardships, earthquakes, and unprecedented destruction — both of which precede the end of times. For some it will be glorious, but it will not be pleasing for others.

Jesus was described in Revelation 1:5-8 as Ruler, Lover, and Savior. He is King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:14-16). Although people will mourn for not recognizing Him earlier, when He returns, a great company of angels and elders will declare praises and glory to the Lamb (Jesus), filling heaven with worship unto Him and unto God (Revelation 5:11-14, 7:9-15). John was amazed by the sight of all of these and even found out that the people worshipping were those who were victorious from the Great Tribulation.

In the end, the devil will be locked up forever and ever (Revelation 20:10-12)! Books containing the final judgment will be opened, and those who are not in the Book of Life are doomed and will suffer eternally in hell (Revelation 20:14-15). Knowing this, however, Paul reminds us not to judge (1 Corinthians 4:5) and to leave the judgment to God. Our job is to preach the word as we get ready for Jesus' return (2 Timothy 4:1-2), stimulate one another in love and good deeds, walk with others, and encourage one another as the day of Christ's return draws near (Hebrews 10:24-25).

JESUS WILL RENEW ALL THINGS

The grandeur of heaven is explained in metaphors because its beauty is beyond description, reminding us that God is preparing a wonderful place for us beyond our imagination! In the end, there will be a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1-5), made beautiful by the presence of God Himself as His glory is enough to give light forever. As promised, He will wipe away our tears, and there will no longer be any death, pain, and crying — HE WILL MAKE ALL THINGS NEW!

We will also have a great intimacy with God, serving Him and reigning with Him forever and ever (Revelation 22:3-5). We will all be changed, so we must be steadfast and continue to abound in the work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:51-53, 57-58). Let us increase in love for one another (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13) and be the best in all the things we do, doing it for the Lord.

JESUS WILL REWARD THE FAITHFUL

Those who believe in Christ, transformed, and bearing the fruit of the Spirit have something to look forward to: Jesus brings the rewards for those who truly belong to and believe in Jesus. True believers are overcomers who will receive a great inheritance, while those who live in sin are doomed to suffer the second death in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone (Revelation 21:7-8). We will all be accountable to Jesus for all we have done in this life (Revelation 22:12-13). Let us find our joy in Him and allow Him to change us from the inside out as we fight the good fight of faith (2 Timothy 4:7-8). He is our greatest reward!

We are to set our minds on things above (Colossians 3:2, 4) and not to be ashamed of Jesus when He returns (1 John 2:28). He is coming quickly, but the question is: are we going to be found truly in Him? May we, just like John, proclaim — “COME LORD JESUS”!



last week's memory verse

and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.

REVELATION 21:4

discuss this message

Knowing that Jesus will return as King and Judge, how should this affect the way you live and make choices now?

Why is it important to know that Jesus will reward His followers? What can you do to make sure you are living in a way that pleases Him when He comes back?

How will you share with others the hope of the “glorious future” that Jesus promises to those who follow Him?

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YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments – Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your help, I will turn away from my sins. Please come into my life and be my Savior and my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal life. Make me the kind of new person You want me to be. Thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13

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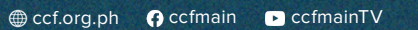

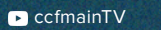
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5:00 PM

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